

Iran expels 2 W. German diplomats

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran said Tuesday two West German diplomats are being expelled in retaliation for a West German television mocking Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, Iran's official news agency reported. The Islamic Republic News Agency said the two diplomats, who were not identified, were ordered to leave Tehran within 72 hours. "The decision was made by the Iranian Foreign Ministry following a broadcast on West Germany's national television network, mocking Islam and the leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeini," the agency said. West German Ambassador Armin Hoyerberg was summoned to the Foreign Ministry and "handed a strongly worded protest note on the insulting programme," together with the expulsion order, IRNA added. Juergen Chrobog, spokesman for Bonn's Foreign Ministry, confirmed the two diplomats were being thrown out. "We regret the decision of the Iranian government," he added. The diplomatic row developed over a skit on the prime-time Rudi Carrell comedy show, one of the country's most popular TV programmes, on West Germany's ARD network. The 14-second lampoon used camera tricks to make reluctant women appear to be throwing their underwear at Khomeini's feet.

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Taxiowners elect association officials

AMMAN (J.T.) — Deputy Governor Ghaleb Izmeqna announced on Tuesday results of elections for the Jordanian Taxiowners Association which took place Monday. The Al Tadamon (solidarity) bloc secured 12 out of 17 seats of the association board and the rest of seats went to Al Diffatani (Two Banks) bloc while the remaining seat was won by an independent candidate. A total of 1,000 voters out of 6,416 registered members of the association voted in the one-day election which was supervised by officials from the governor's office, the Ministry of Labour and Social Development and the Public Security Department.

Czech team arrives

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation from Czechoslovakia headed by the deputy to the minister of external trade arrived here Tuesday on a four-day visit. During the visit the delegation will hold talks with senior Jordanian officials on Jordanian-Czech cooperation in the field of economy and trade. The delegation will also visit tourist sites in the Kingdom.

Gemayel in Paris

PARIS (AP) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel arrived in Paris Tuesday for an official visit of two days during which he is scheduled to meet with President Francois Mitterrand and Premier Jacques Chirac. France is the third stop on a trip that already has taken the Lebanese president to Brussels and London.

Gorbachev begins Baltic tour

MOSCOW (R) — Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev on Tuesday began a tour of the Soviet Baltic, a politically sensitive area but one which has set an example for economic changes he is trying to introduce nationwide. TASS news agency said he had arrived in Riga, capital of Latvia, and Moscow Radio said he would go on later to the neighbouring republics of Estonia and Lithuania.

Webb may succeed Lehman

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House has chosen a highly decorated Vietnam veteran to be next secretary of the navy, sources said Tuesday. James H. Webb, 40, had announced Feb. 2 he was resigning as assistant secretary for reserve affairs to return to private life as a novelist.

Roadside bomb kills 3 in S. Lebanon

KIRYAT SHMONA (R) — Three Lebanese were killed and four wounded in a roadside bomb explosion on Tuesday inside Israel's self-declared "security zone" in South Lebanon, Israeli sources said. Israel Radio reported they were driving to their jobs in Israel when the blast occurred near the town of Bint Jbeil.

Zia to visit India

NEW DELHI (AP) — India announced on Tuesday that Pakistani President Zia Ul Haq will arrive Saturday to watch a cricket match, and officials said Mr. Zia and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi also would hold talks to further defuse tensions on their frontier.

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Berri orders end to siege of Beirut camps

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Lebanon's Shi'ite Muslim leader Nabih Berri said Tuesday he had ordered his Amal militia to lift its four-month siege of Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut from Wednesday.

Mr. Berri told a news conference in Damascus he had ordered the Amal political leadership and military command to "take the necessary measures to implement this decision as from tomorrow morning."

"I announce the lifting of the siege of Palestinian camps in Beirut and its southern suburbs," Mr. Berri said.

He said he had taken his decision "hoping that the Palestinians will in turn lift the siege of South Lebanon and withdraw from positions they occupied east of Sidon."

He made only a passing reference to the beleaguered Rashidiyah camp in South Lebanon, where Amal reimposed a blockade on Tuesday after a one-day respite.

Mr. Berri said he had instructed his aides that measures for lifting the siege of the Beirut camps "should be in line with the steps taken in Rashidiyah camps."

This was an apparent reference to the Amal decision to open Rashidiyah for five hours a day from Monday.

Amal sources in South Lebanon, however, said they had reimposed a blockade of the camp after an overnight clash when militiamen intercepted a group of about 10 Palestinians creeping out of it under cover of darkness.

Mr. Berri said the lifting of the siege on the Beirut camps meant full freedom of movement into and out of the camps and free entry of food and medical supplies.

Thousands of refugees in the Bourj Al Barajneh and Shatila camps in southern Beirut have faced starvation during the blockade.

But Mr. Berri made it clear his men would keep a close watch out for heavy weapons entering the camps.

He said his decision to lift the siege was in response to the posi-

five attitude of Damascus-based guerrilla groups who had endorsed Iranian and Syrian peace initiatives.

Mr. Berri's reference to a Palestinian siege in South Lebanon apparently concerned fighting between Amal and Palestinian fighters loyal to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat for control of a strategic village commanding the coastal highway from Beirut to the south.

"When the Palestinian withdrawal is completed, both sides will sit down for talks on future Lebanese-Palestinian relations," Mr. Berri told the news conference.

Amal has accused Mr. Arafat of seeking to rebuild his power-base in Lebanon after he was forced to withdraw from Lebanon in 1982. Mr. Arafat has accused Syrian-backed groups of trying to force Palestinians from the country.

In Tunis Mr. Arafat said Monday night Amal was still trying to starve and shell the camps in Beirut and South Lebanon into submission.

He said 15 tonnes of flour supplied to Bourj Al Barajneh last week were already exhausted.

Palestinian women join fight in besieged camp, page 2

Fierce Amal-Communist battles continue; 21 killed

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Fierce street battles raged into a third day in west Beirut on Tuesday and police said at least 21 people were killed, another 100 were wounded and dozens of buildings burned out of control.

The fighting frustrated efforts to locate missing Anglican church negotiator Terry Waite and trapped two American Muslim envoys trying to help win freedom for 26 other foreign hostages at their hotel.

It also brought to a standstill attempts to send U.N. food supplies to the hungry population of the besieged refugee camps of Bourj Al Barajneh and Shatila.

Police said "relative calm prevailed around both shantytowns because all parties are preoccupied with the Beirut conflict."

Fresh fighting flared in front of the seven-storey building housing the offices of AP, the U.S., CBS and NBC television networks and the Kuwaiti Al Qabas newspaper in Nimeb Yafeth street at midday.

At least four bullets pierced into the AP's fourth-floor office, shattering window glass and punching holes in curtains. But none of the trapped staff was injured.

The savage fighting paralysed west Beirut, trapping terrified residents in their bullet-scarred homes and forcing a Syrian-backed security force to withdraw from the streets.

Witnesses said leftists and Shi'ite Amal militiamen, distinguished from each other by the colour of their headbands, battled back and forth from the seafront to suburbs close to the city's greenline divide.

The two sides blasted away with mortars, anti-tank grenades and heavy machineguns, despite several ceasefire appeals broadcast by local radios.

An angry housewife commented: "God get rid of them (gunmen) all. We can't take it anymore. Can't they see what they are doing to us?"

It was the most serious violence in Beirut's western sector since Syrian commandos and observers deployed there last July to help Lebanese security forces to end militia gun-law.

Syrian observers called militia officials to an emergency meeting late Monday night, but battles still raged from street to street. Armoured cars carrying 14.5 mm machineguns and packed

with militiamen patrolled several areas shortly after dawn in a bid to persuade gunmen to withdraw, but heavy fire forced the joint security force to withdraw.

Amal issued a statement accusing the Druze-led Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) of joining the battle on the side of Lebanon's pro-Soviet Communist Party.

Beirut's Muslim and leftist militias are loosely allied against right-wing forces in east Beirut but are deeply divided along religious and political lines.

The fighting was apparently sparked by an Amal-Communist feud over the opening of a new Amal office in Sanayeh district. Eight people were killed and 28 wounded in the initial flare-up on Sunday.

"Yesterday, Amal tried to occupy a Communist Party office near the Arab University and the Communists retaliated by trying to gain control of new areas," one resident said.

Many smaller, leftist groups had been thrown on the defensive by a resurgence of Shi'ite military and political power in recent months.

Gates promises disclosure

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Robert Gates, nominated to head the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to succeed ailing William Casey, pledged Tuesday to inform quickly President Reagan and Congress of all key intelligence matters — good and bad.

"I can assure you that I will hesitate neither to present unwelcome news nor say what I think to policymakers or to Congress," Mr. Gates told the Senate Intelligence Committee at the start of his confirmation hearing.

But, in a 12-page opening statement, Mr. Gates made no direct reference to the Iran arms scandal that erupted last November, provoking Mr. Reagan's worst political crisis.

One of the key issues in the scandal was the CIA's failure to

notify the congressional intelligence panels of all cover activities in a timely fashion, as required by law.

Mr. Gates told the televised hearing Mr. Reagan gave him clear instructions when he offered him the post after Mr. Casey resigned following surgery last December for a brain tumour.

"The president's instructions when he offered the position to me were clear and direct," he said. "He told me that he wants his intelligence unvarnished — the good and the bad."

"He also said that he expected me to come to him directly with intelligence or concerns whenever I think it appropriate," he said, adding that he had pledged to do so.

Ireland goes to polls

DUBLIN (AP) — Irish voters flocked to the polls Tuesday in a general election that surveys predicted would end in defeat for Prime Minister Garret Fitzgerald but could deny challenger Charles Haughey an outright majority.

A majority for Mr. Haughey in the 166-seat Dail, or parliament, would mean a remarkable comeback for a politician who has served two abbreviated terms as prime minister in a career dogged by controversy.

Defeat for Mr. Fitzgerald would probably mean his political demise.

Reporters said 75 per cent of the electorate was expected to vote.

Mr. Haughey's commanding lead in opinion polls has been steadily eroded by Mr. Fitzgerald, who is eager to embark on a new alliance with the Progressive Democrats, founded 14 months ago by Fianna Fail dissident Desmond O'Malley.



His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday receives North Yemeni Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Iryani (Petra photo)

King receives N. Yemeni message

Bilateral panel opens meetings

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday conferred with North Yemeni Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Iryani who conveyed to the King a message from Colonel Ali Abdullah Saleh, North Yemen's president.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the message dealt with the situation in the Middle East region, bilateral relations and cooperation between Jordan and North Yemen.

The audience was attended by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri. Earlier on Tuesday, Dr. Iryani was received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan with whom he discussed bilateral relations and means of promoting cooperation between the two countries.

Mr. Masri and North Yemen's Ambassador to Jordan Ali Abdullah were present at the

meeting.

Dr. Iryani and Mr. Masri also held talks at the Foreign Ministry during which they reviewed Jordanian-North Yemeni relations and economic, social and cultural cooperation. The two ministers were leading their respective sides of the joint Jordanian-Yemeni committee, formed during King Hussein's visit to North Yemen in 1985.

The committee discussed means of overcoming obstacles that could impede the development of bilateral cooperation in the future, according to Petra.

The agency said the Jordanian side comprised the secretaries general of the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of Planning and the Ministry of Education and the under-secretaries of the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Ministry of Health and Jordan's

(Continued on page 3)

King meets Spanish defence minister

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein received Spanish Defence Minister Marcial Serra on Tuesday and discussed with him the Middle East situation as well as prospects for defence cooperation between the two countries, sources close to the meeting said.

The afternoon meeting at Al Nadwa Palace was preceded by a private luncheon hosted for Mr.

Serra by King Hussein, the sources said.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasbi, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and Chief-of-Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleh formed the Jordanian side to the meeting at the King's palace, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

(Continued on page 3)



His Majesty King Hussein receives Spanish Defence Minister Marcial Serra on Tuesday (Petra photo)

U.S. to play down Iran affair during Shamir visit

WASHINGTON (R) — President Ronald Reagan and his key aides will try to keep the Iran arms dispute out of the spotlight during Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's three-day visit, a senior U.S. official said Tuesday.

The talks are designed to focus on Middle East peace prospects and how the United States and Israel "must deal with the Soviet threat" to the region, the official told reporters shortly after Mr. Shamir arrived in the capital.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, stressed Mr. Reagan's decision in January 1986 to authorise U.S. arms shipments to Iran was an American — not an Israeli — initiative.

A White House document drawn up at the time of the decision says Israel suggested the arms sales, but Israeli officials have claimed they did not propose the idea.

"We have made clear we accept responsibility for the deci-

Soviets make shift on chemicals

GENEVA (R) — The Soviet Union on Tuesday agreed to disclose the locations of its chemical arms stockpiles, marking a major shift in position at multi-national negotiations aimed at banning such weapons. Chief Soviet negotiator Yuri Nazarkine told a 40-nation disarmament conference, that Moscow also accepted a long-standing American proposal for international on-site verification of declared chemical arms stocks. He called for each state to enter into a treaty to make a detailed declaration of locations of stockpiles and storage facilities on its territory, or elsewhere under its control, within 30 days of a convention's entry into force. Moscow has refused in the past to provide such information and Western diplomats described the move as a major shift in position. The diplomats said it was the closest the Kremlin has come during the long-running negotiations to admitting to the existence of Soviet chemical weapons. Western military analysts estimated Moscow has some 200,000 to 500,000 tonnes of modern chemical arms, including storage depots at 32 sites in East bloc countries.

Palestinian girl shot in Gaza

HEBRON, Occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Four Israelis and a teenage Palestinian girl were injured Tuesday in the ninth consecutive day of violent protests in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Israelis were hurt in two incidents of stone-throwings at Israeli buses outside the West Bank town of Tulkarm and in Dhabiriya, further south near Hebron. Police said two Arabs were arrested.

In the Gaza Strip town of Khan Yunis, an Israeli policeman shot a 16-year-old Palestinian girl in the leg after he came under a barrage of stones, a military spokesman said.

The spokesman blamed the wave of violence on Palestinian anger over the plight of Palestinian refugees in besieged camps

in Beirut. Tensions also have been high in Gaza over Israel's expulsion last month of Mohammad Dahlan, a suspected Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) activist.

Israeli officials said an American history teacher at the Birzeit University near Ramallah was arrested during a demonstration on Monday.

The academic, Rober Heacock of Philadelphia, is in custody and expected to be charged soon. The U.S. consulate in Jerusalem declined to discuss the case with reporters.

Birzeit students held a peaceful protest march on Tuesday.

In Hebron, large groups of high-spirited high school pupils filled pavements near schools in areas where clashes took place with Israeli troops on Saturday.

3-day meeting of joint committee allocates funds

AMMAN (Petra) — The Joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee to support the steadfastness of the Palestinians living in the occupied territories concluded a three-day meeting at the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs on Tuesday. The meeting reviewed a report on areas where available funds could be allocated, especially for priority projects, a ministry spokesman said.

The spokesman said the committee also reviewed its financial situation in the light of a recent contribution of \$9.5 million from Saudi Arabia. The contribution was the third Saudi instalment of aid for the year 1985, the spokesman said.

The committee also took note of a decision by the Kuwait government to pay \$5 million to the higher council in charge of universities in the occupied territories. The committee decided to allocate various sums within the means available to it for various projects, both pending as well as those which require priority, related to boosting the steadfastness of the Palestinian people, the spokesman said.

The Feb. 15-17 meeting was the 35th in a series of sessions that the committee held since its formation.

Development programmes are part of continuing assistance to occupied territories, Duda explains, page 3

Iraqi leaders review situation on warfront

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein presided over a 5-1/2-hour meeting of his top military aides Monday night to review the situation in the war with Iran.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) gave no details of the talks, attended by members of the general command of the armed forces, Defence Minister Adnan Khairallah and the minister of state for military affairs, General Abdul Jabbar Shanshal.

Diplomats say Iran has massed hundreds of thousands of regular army and volunteer troops for a major offensive in marshlands east of Misan province in southern Iraq.

Neither Baghdad nor Tehran has given details for the past two weeks on fighting further to the south where an Iranian offensive last month was apparently halted east of the city of Basra.

People in Basra told Reuters by telephone on Tuesday that intensive Iranian artillery shelling over the past 24 hours killed or wounded dozens of civilians.

Iraqi war communiques put Monday's casualty figure in Basra, Iraq's second city with a population of one million, at 21 people dead or injured.

A diplomat who drove from Basra to Baghdad said he saw at least a dozen trucks loaded with furniture heading north towards the Iraqi capital, but life in the city appeared normal.

Iraq said its warplanes carried out raids Monday night on the city of Tabriz in northern Iran and the western towns of Dezful and Pole-Dokhtar.

First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan said Iraq would double its strikes on Iranian cities and on oil and industrial installations until Tehran was forced to abandon the war, now in its seventh year.

Mr. Ramadan, in an interview with INA, said the war was heightening divisions within the Islamic government of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

A continuation of the conflict "would increase the already existing state of disintegration among the Iranian people who suffered for long under the Khomeini regime," he said.

Mr. Ramadan said Iraq would continue to "destroy the enemy's economy and war machine and step up strikes at Iranian cities and oil installations."

Iraq has recently stepped up its air blitz.

Peres: U.S. and Israeli stands could ruin chances for peace

TEL AVIV (AP) — Foreign Minister Shimon Peres suggested Tuesday that Israel and the United States may be ruining chances for Middle East peace talks by rejecting Arab calls for an international conference.

Although such a conference seems a distant prospect, Mr. Peres said, "this is not a good reason to kill the chicken that may lay the egg in the future. I wouldn't be so trigger-happy in doing so."

Mr. Peres spoke to 100 American Jewish fundraisers while Israel's right-wing Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was in Washington for meetings with President Ronald Reagan.

Mr. Shamir said before leaving he would stress to U.S. administration officials that he was opposed to an international conference.

"Israel as well as the United States declared separately and jointly that we shall not agree to see the Russians at an interna-

tional conference," Mr. Peres said.

But Arab states "feel that in order to enter negotiations they have to have a sort of premiere of an opening occasion by an international conference," he added.

"I'm convinced that if we shall say no to the peace process right now, we shall kill it."

In a satellite television interview last month, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz backed Israel's objections to an international conference at which the Soviets would be given a role.

Israel's multi-party coalition government is divided on the conference issue.

Mr. Peres said he agreed with Israeli and U.S. conditions that the Soviet Union renew the ties it ruptured with Israel in 1967 and ease restrictions on Jewish emigration before the Kremlin could join peace talks.

The emigration issue is "our

(Continued on page 3)

Palestinian women join fight in besieged camp

BEIRUT (R) — Unmarried women fight in the trenches alongside the men. Children and old people chase cats and dogs for food. One man, caught in shell-fire while burying his father, spent two days in the grave with the corpse.

These are some of the harrowing stories told by the 500 Palestinian women and children who have fled Beirut's battered Bourj Al Barajneh Camp, besieged for the last 16 weeks by the Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia.

"All the men are fighting... single women fight in the trenches along with men while the other women cook, carry ammunition and transfer the wounded to the hospital," said Amani Firawi, a 23-year-old mother of three.

Firawi, whose husband disappeared during the 1982 massacres at the Sabra and Shatila Palestinian camps in Beirut, fled Bourj Al Barajneh Monday to the relative safety of the Mar Elias Camp in West Beirut.

The refugees who fled the camp were received by Amal, which provided them with food and shelter in a school before they moved on to Mar Elias or relatives elsewhere.

There are two other besieged camps. Amal has partially lifted the siege of Rashidiyah, near Tyre, allowing refugees out to shop. But in Shatila people are reported without food.

Thibsam Khalil huddled with her two-year-old daughter in a

more," Firawi said.

She said the refugees were using the wooden shutters and doors of their houses to light fires for cooking.

"There is a great sense of solidarity. People have shared their food and sometimes four families live in one house," Pauline Cutting, a British surgeon working in Bourj Al Barajneh, told reporters by radio.

Cutting has said people have begun to die of malnutrition. Firawi said the refugees would bury the dead in the yards of the small houses. "The graveyard is on one of the flashpoints of the camp and we were not able to go there for burials."

"A young man went to bury his father in the graveyard when the shelling started. He had to spend two days in the grave with his dead father," she said.

The women said the latest four-month-old outbreak of the camps war between Palestinian commandos and Amal was the worst since the struggle for control of the camps started in 1985.

"We were watching our children starve to death in front of us... We had to leave but there are still thousands of women and children inside," Khalil said.

She said she was shocked when she left the camp to see people outside carrying on a normal Beirut life.

"My heart aches when I think those trapped inside," Khalil said.

Mahdi's Egyptian visit expected to boost ties

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan's Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi begins a five-day visit to Egypt Wednesday for talks with Egyptian officials expected to improve relations between the two countries after two years of strain.

Mr. Mahdi, who took office in May last year, will meet President Hosni Mubarak, Prime Minister Atef Sedqi and other senior Egyptian officials.

His visit with a delegation that will include four cabinet ministers follows a flurry of official exchanges between Egypt and Sudan during the past few weeks, diplomats said.

Relations came under strain after Sudanese leader Jafer Numeiri, a staunch ally of Cairo, was overthrown in a 1985 coup while in Egypt.

Mr. Mubarak immediately granted him asylum and Egypt has rejected demands for his extradition to stand trial in Sudan on a number of charges including treason.

But the diplomats said Numeiri's presence in Egypt was

no longer a stumbling block to ties between Cairo and Khartoum and Mr. Mahdi was unlikely to emphasise the issue.

Egypt was expected to react coolly, however, to any suggestions by Mr. Mahdi for a "brotherhood charter" to replace a 1982 Egyptian-Sudanese integration agreement repealed by Khartoum last year.

"When you have over two million Sudanese living and working in Egypt and ties going back to Pharaonic times, agreements and charters are hardly necessary," one Arab diplomat said.

Mr. Mahdi's coalition government came to power after Sudan's first democratic election in 17 years.

Military cooperation between Sudan and Libya, Cairo's chief Arab enemy, has been a source of worry to Egypt since Numeiri's overthrow, but the diplomats said Mr. Mahdi has in recent months gradually trimmed ties with Libya.

Egypt was content with the steps taken so far to check Libyan

influence but would continue to closely monitor developments in Sudan, diplomats said.

Meanwhile Sudanese and Soviet delegates have begun talks in Khartoum on implementing a trade protocol signed five months ago.

In Monday's opening session, undersecretary of Trade Omar Al Muharak said obstacles had cropped up delaying implementation of the accord, signed during an official visit to Moscow by Mr. Mahdi. He did not specify what the obstacles are.

Nevertheless, he said, Sudan still wants to implement the agreement, which specifies trade of Soviet sugar, hane gas cylinders and textiles for Sudanese cotton, sorghum and other items.

Sudan and the Soviet Union were close friends soon after former Numeiri took power in 1969, but relations soured after Numeiri accused Soviet-backed Communists of trying to overthrow him in 1971. He then turned to the United States for his major support.

Chad, has been the scene of sporadic ground fighting.

The army high command said in another statement that Sunday's bombing raid on the government outpost of Kouba Oulanga was carried out by a lone Soviet-built Tupolev-22 aircraft.

night also said one Libyan soldier was captured and three Soviet-built T-55 tanks destroyed near Zouar, a strategic oasis town on the edge of the mountain range.

Zouar, which controls the main supply route to Libyan bases in

France seeks to boost ties with Turkey

PARIS (R) — France and Turkey Tuesday began two days of talks aimed at upgrading relations between Paris and Ankara after several years of tension.

Turkish Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu and his French counterpart Jean-Bernard Raimond chaired the opening meeting of a bilateral economic commission aimed at boosting trade exchanges and joint investment projects.

Mr. Halefoglu, later due to meet Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, President Francois Mitterrand and Defence Minister Andre Giraud, is the first Turkish minister to make an official visit to France for several years.

Relations between Paris and Ankara were poor under France's 1981-86 Socialist government, seen in Turkey as being both pro-Greek and sympathetic to Armenian reports of genocide by Turkey. France has a large community of Armenian exiles.

Relations have also been slow to recover from the effect of the 1980 coup which brought military rule to Turkey and from French disapproval of the Turkish role in Cyprus.

First moves to normalise relations were undertaken by Prime Minister Jacques Chirac shortly after his right-wing government took power last March. Mr. Chirac met Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in Paris in April and sent Defence Minister Andre Giraud for talks in Ankara the following month.

France has laid the groundwork for this week's visit by reassuring Greece that relations with Athens will not be sacrificed.

French officials say there are still substantial differences between France and Turkey over Cyprus, but Paris is sympathetic to Turkey's drive to develop closer ties with the European Community.

Paris is keen to boost a proposal by Bouygues, France's biggest construction company, to build a tunnel linking the Asian and European parts of Istanbul under the Bosphorus. The company submitted a feasibility study to the city last December.

Meanwhile, the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) strongly stated Monday that Turkey should not get closer to the European Community before it has restored democracy.

ETUC called on member states of the EC, the Council of Europe and NATO to fully assess the real human rights situation in Turkey, where "authorities have still not reestablished democratic and trade union rights and keep on violating international labour conventions."

Kuwait seeks to train military personnel in Turkey

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Kuwait is interested in sending military personnel to Turkey, a key NATO country, for training, the Kuwait News Agency KUNA reported.

Turkish Defence Minister Zeki Yavuzturk arrived in the northern Gulf emirate Monday night on a four-day visit, saying he will discuss provisional details of a military training pact.

He said the idea was raised during a visit to Turkey last November by Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, who met his Turkish counterpart on arrival Monday night.

Mr. Yavuzturk's visit came on the heels of one to Saudi Arabia

by the Turkish chief of staff, and diplomatic sources said the Gulf Arab states were hoping to use Turkish military know-how in upgrading the combat capabilities of their armed forces.

Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are linked with Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Oman in a regional economic and defence alliance called the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

The Kuwaiti defence minister told reporters that he would sign with his Turkish counterpart an agreement for the exchange of military expertise and training of Kuwaiti military personnel in Turkish military academies.

Sheikh Salem said the accord would cover the dispatch of Turkish experts to the Gulf to train Kuwaitis.

On his part, Mr. Yavuzturk said that the two Islamic countries "maintain strong relations," adding "my talks with Kuwaiti officials will cover co-operation in the military industries and training of Kuwaiti Armed Forces."

Sheikh Salem indicated the discussions would touch on the military situation in the Gulf and other political questions "though such topics are the speciality of politicians."

Responding to a question about efforts Kuwait was making to bring the Iraq-Iran war to an end,

Sheikh Salem said "we maintain good relations with both neighbours and we will continue to work hard with all international efforts to bring about a cease-fire and a peaceful settlement."

Turkey maintains good relations with both Baghdad and Tehran and has been active in pan-Islamic efforts to mediate a settlement to the 6-year-old war.

Asked about his opinion on the recent Iranian offensive into Iraq's southern regions, which are only 80 kilometres from Kuwait border, Sheikh Salem said "we know that the Iraqis gained a foothold in the Iraqi territory and were driven out by the Iraqis. This is the nature of war."

Iranian rebels announce killing Khomeini aide

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iranian anti-government guerrillas said Tuesday they shot to death the personal representative of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in the south-central city of Kerman.

The assassination of the official, Ali Iranmanesh, had been reported a day earlier by Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), which said a manhunt was under way for the killers.

Earlier, the group claimed it killed Jamsid Ghare Savari, the warden of the prison in the southern city of Ahvaz, last week. Iranian news media did not comment on that claim.

The Mujahadeen has reported an increase in attacks on government officials since the beginning of the month.

The Iranian government has confirmed that Hadi Khamenei, the brother of President Ali Khamenei, was wounded in an attack by the Mujahadeen last Wednesday.

Reports from the Iranian government or from anti-government groups operating in the country can seldom be independently confirmed.

Cairo holds 2 British women, four Egyptians in drug haul

CAIRO (AP) — Two British women and four Egyptian men accused of trying to smuggle millions of dollars worth of heroin into Egypt have been arrested, a prosecution official said Tuesday.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity under departmental rules, said the detainees are believed to be part of an "international drug-trafficking ring" that carried out two successful smuggling operations into Egypt in recent months.

The two women, he said, were seized at Cairo airport on Sunday as they carried six kilograms (13.2 pounds) of heroin with a street value of 6 million Egyptian pounds (\$4.5 million). The drug was secreted in a compartment inside a decorative wooden elephant inlaid with mother-of-pearl.

All six suspects were in custody during investigation, but the prosecutor said charges had not yet been filed.

Under Egyptian law, drug smuggling is punishable by death or long-term imprisonment at hard labour. The death penalty is

not mandatory, but judges began to mete it out in late 1985 after authorities reported an upswing in smuggling of hard drugs like heroin and cocaine.

Several Egyptians and foreigners, including an Israeli, have been sentenced to death since, but none is known to have been executed.

The prosecution official identified the British women as Marion Arnold, 41, and Maureen, Carol Paleschi, 45. He could not specify their hometowns.

A British consular source said a consular official met the two women on Monday and quoted them as saying they did not know the elephant contained heroin. But they acknowledged that two Egyptians who had waited for them at Cairo airport and were detained with them were friends, the source added.

The source, who refused to be identified by name, would not confirm the women's names or provide other information about them, saying the women had asked that information about them not be released.

UAE paper resumes publication after ban

ABU DHABI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) daily Al Fajr newspaper resumed publication Tuesday after a 15-day suspension ordered by the Information Ministry for alleged violations of the country's press laws.

The paper, one of eight UAE dailies, said in an editorial its management had tried but failed to convince the ministry to reduce the length of the ban.

Al Fajr did not want to discuss the order "because it shares the keenness of those who issued it

for the public interest," the editorial said.

The paper was suspended on Feb. 2 because of what the ministry termed violations of the press laws that harmed the higher interests of the state.

Owner and editor-in-chief Obeid Al Mazroui said earlier he believed the ban was tied to an article in the Feb. 1 issue which discussed what it said was the relative weakness of the federal government compared to the local governments of the seven UAE emirates.

Demjanjuk's lawyer calls proceedings a show trial

TEL AVIV (R) — A lawyer for alleged Nazi war criminal John Demjanjuk said Tuesday that Israeli court proceedings against his client were a show trial.

Demjanjuk, born in the Ukraine and extradited from the United States last year, went on trial for his life Monday on charges he killed hundreds of thousands of Jews at Treblinka camp in Poland.

He has denied he was the brutal camp guard "Ivan the Terrible" who tortured inmates and operated its gas chambers. An estimated 850,000 people died in Treblinka.

The second day of Israel's first war crimes trial since Adolf Eichmann was tried and hanged a quarter-century ago opened with

an appeal by Demjanjuk's Israeli defence lawyer to skip testimony on how millions were killed in World War II.

Attorney Yoram Sheftel said the defence accepted the sections of the 24-page indictment that detailed the mass murder of people and there was no need to expand on the subject before the three-member court.

"If the prosecution insists these things be heard, then we say the aim is not to present them to your honour but to the 16 television cameras here," Sheftel said.

He then compared the proceedings in a converted cinema inside a Jerusalem convention centre to what he called Soviet show trials during the rule of Josef Stalin.

Sweden threatens to pull out of U.N. force in Cyprus

STOCKHOLM (R) — Sweden Tuesday threatened to withdraw its part of the United Nations peace-keeping force in Cyprus by the end of the year unless other countries stepped in to help finance the force.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman told Reuters Sweden was dissatisfied with lack of progress in the Cyprus conflict.

He added that the U.N. force on the divided island — unlike the UNIFIL contingent in Lebanon — depended for its finances on voluntary contributions, which in effect meant that Sweden itself

had to pay the \$15 million in annual operating costs.

Sweden contributes 395 men and women to the 2,300-man force, established in 1964 to separate Greek and Turkish-Cypriots. The other participating nations are Britain, Denmark, Austria, Finland, Ireland, Australia and Canada.

Jan Eliasson, head of the ministry's political section, said the countries contributing troops had warned that their future presence should not be taken for granted in the light of the present stalemate on Cyprus.

TV & RADIO

WHAT'S GOING ON

FOR THE TRAVELLER

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel. 771119

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Kuran
15:40 Children's programme
16:10 Children's programme
17:00 Wadi Darya
17:20 Wadi Darya
18:10 Arabesque
19:20 Arabesque
20:00 Arabesque
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21:40 Arabesque
22:45 Arabesque
23:00 Arabesque

PROGRAMME TWO

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RADIO JORDAN
Tel. 771119

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TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

An exhibition entitled "Berdikian" at the French Cultural Centre (until Feb. 28)

The Goethe Institute presents an exhibition entitled "Six Centuries of German Woodcut Art" at the Petra Bank Gallery - Wadi Saqra (until Feb. 22)

Fine arts exhibition by Jordanian artists at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Feb. 23)

FILM

"Fall Guy," a Japanese film at 7:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre.

"Alice in Den Stueden" at 8:00 p.m. at the Goethe Institute.

LECTURE

"On the U.S. political agenda for 1967-1968 and the M.E.," by Dr. Hassan al-Sayid, Secretary of State Michael Sterner at 7:00 p.m. at the American Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 661207

American Centre Tel. 643731

American Centre Library Tel. 643731

British Council Tel. 631475

French Cultural Centre Tel. 637009

Goethe Institute Tel. 641993

Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 644203

Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 624048

Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 639777

Haya Arts Centre Tel. 651955

Hussein Youth City Tel. 667181

Y.W.C.A. Tel. 664251

Amman Municipal Library Tel. 637111

Univ. of Jordan Library Tel. 843555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum," Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium. Open all week 9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics

from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651700.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qa'a (Citadel) (180). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Martyrs' Memorial (15 Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

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Lower House endorses Senate amendments to draft contracting law

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — In a regular session on Tuesday, the Lower House of Parliament endorsed several draft laws, some with amendments, including a controversial legislation on contracting which had been amended and sent back to the deputies by the Upper House of Parliament (Senate).

The Senate, which last week rejected amendments to the law introduced by the House's legal committee, called for reducing by half the commission taken by the Jordanian Contractors Association (JCA).

Several deputies suggested casting a show-of-hands vote on the Senate's modifications without referring the law to the House's concerned committees. When it was put to vote, the draft law was passed unanimously.

The House session was chaired by its speaker Akel Al Fayez and was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Cabinet ministers. The draft laws which were endorsed covered two loan agreements between the government and the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development as well as legislations governing the encouragement of investment, dealing in fixed assets by concerned organisations and the Jordan Marketing Organisation. (See story below)

Transport minister replies to query on rail link

At the outset of the two-hour session the transport minister's reply to a query by deputy Leith Shbeilat on the projected Aqaba-Wadi Al Ahiad railway line was read out. In his written query, Mr. Shbeilat (Amman) questioned the legality of a contract signed between the government and a Greek investment company to study the feasibility of the projected railway line.

The minister's reply stated that the Greek company was an investment corporation and not an engineering or a consultant company to design or carry out such projects.

The minister added that it was the company which approached the government for investment possi-

bilities in the Kingdom, particularly setting up a wide gauge railway connecting Aqaba with the phosphates mines at Wadi Abiad, Hasa, and Shidiyah. For its part, the government agreed in principle on the study but only after it secured a financial guarantee of \$1 million, he said.

Another counter argument by the minister was that the agreement entitled the Greek company or any party acting on its behalf to collect the revenues on the project for a period of 30 years from the first day of operations. The role of the company, being a consortium of investment concerns, is confined to investing and funding the project, he said.

The government's concerned authorities are currently evaluating the company's study and if the government should decide on revoking the agreement, this would not entail any financial commitment on the part of the government, the minister noted.

When the minister's reply had been read out, Mr. Rifai, citing legal excesses in the way Mr. Shbeilat's query had been presented and channelled to the concerned authorities, warned that the legislators' queries would go unheeded from now on should he maintain the same approach.

"I was even about to tell the minister in question not to answer Mr. Shbeilat's query if it had not been for your honourable assembly," the prime minister said, referring to Mr. Shbeilat's "tacit attack" on the government represented by the Cabinet minister. In his query, Mr. Shbeilat urged the House to secure an answer from the minister in question within eight days or during the forthcoming session of the House.

Such a request, the prime minister argued, could only be put forward should the concerned executive authority decline to give a prompt answer or delay the reply for more than eight days as stated in the charter. Mr. Rifai contended that a minister has never rejected or delayed replying to a query put to him by any legislator. Moreover, the premier continued, the charter stipulates that any query from deputies should be channelled to the concerned authority through the House speaker and not directly to Mr. Shbeilat.

Regarding the deputy's statement that he would call for a hearing should the minister not reply in due course, "I simply say that it is not Mr. Shbeilat who decides whether or not to convene a hearing session as such," Mr. Rifai said.

Only the assembly has the authority to hold a hearing session for one of the policy makers but after they hear his answer to the query and only if he or she has committed a certain mistake, Mr. Rifai said. He questioned the reason behind the attitude of Mr. Shbeilat, who did not attend Tuesday's session. The session was attended for some time by Senate Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi and Senate member Hassan Al Kayad.

The focus of the main debate was whether the House should refer to its committees 13 requests put forward to improve and extend services to various townships.

After a long discussion and because referring the requests to the committees would take time, especially since Parliament's current ordinary session is coming to an end, the deputies voted unanimously in favour of referring the requests to the government.

The vote was endorsed on condition that the deputies demands not be binding. The government, burdened by expenditure envisaged in the 1987 budget, would not be able to heed all these demands, deputy Rizk Bataineh said. He suggested that the government study the possibility of implementing the projects in question within its capabilities and on a priority scale.

Deputy Jamal Da'oud Suleiman supported Mr. Bataineh's suggestion and argued that the government would not be able to draft a budget supplement to execute these projects. The demands should have been made before starting the fiscal year so that the government could have included them in the budget, Mr. Suleiman said.

The requests include giving complete authority to the Irbid customs department to deal with imports and exports in a drive for decentralisation, providing rural mosques with imams (preachers), electrifying a number of villages in Irbid and Zarka, in addition to other requests.



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Tuesday confers with a visiting Romanian delegation headed by National Assembly Speaker Nikolai Giossan (to Mr. Rifai's left) in a meeting attended by Upper House (Senate) Speaker Ahmad Lawzi (to Mr. Giossan's left) and Senate member Amer Khammash (second from right).

Rifai, Romanian speaker review Mideast issues

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Tuesday conferred with President of Romania's National Assembly Mr. Nikolai Giossan who is currently on an official visit to Jordan. They reviewed current issues in the Middle East region and Romanian-Jordanian relations. Mr. Giossan conveyed to the prime minister an invitation from the Romanian prime minister to visit Romania.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Ahmad Al Lawzi, speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, House members and the Romanian Ambassador to Jordan Todor Coman.

Kanaan briefs Giossan

Mr. Giossan was later received by Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan who spoke about his ministry's role in following up on and supervising the implementation of social and economic projects included in the 1986-1990 five-year national development plan.

The minister also spoke about the priorities of the plan and the economic factors affecting the country and the whole region. Dr. Kanaan also discussed the government's measures designed to adapt to economic changes and to the requirements of development in the Kingdom.

The minister also explained the objectives of the government-sponsored development plan for the occupied West Bank and said that it is intended as a means to help the indigenous population remain steadfast in their home-

land. The plan, the minister continued, is also to help the Arab population overcome the problem of unemployment by creating jobs and new opportunities for the Arab citizens living under Israeli rule.

Dr. Kanaan underlined the importance of promoting the ties of friendship and cooperation between Romania and Jordan in conformity with directives from His Majesty King Hussein and Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu.

For his part, Mr. Giossan expressed his country's readiness to contribute towards supporting Jordan's five-year plan and he said that Romania admired Jordan's economic development. He also referred to the existing cooperation between Romania and Jordan in oil and electricity affairs.

The current world economic situation, Mr. Giossan said, calls for closer economic cooperation between the two countries, adding that Romania's experience and expertise in the agricultural and industrial fields could be placed at Jordan's disposal and both countries could expand the scope of their bilateral cooperation.

Visit to Jerash

Later, Mr. Giossan and his accompanying delegation visited the Greco-Roman city of Jerash and were briefed on its historic background. The delegation, which toured the archaeological site, were accompanied by Mr. Amer Khammash, member of the Upper House of Parliament.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Shakaa meets Arab justice official

AMMAN (Petra) — Justice Minister Riyadh Al Shakaa on Tuesday met with Mr. Mohammad Miko, secretary general of the Arab Justice Ministers Council, who is on a visit to Jordan. They reviewed preparations for convening the fifth Arab justice ministers conference, due to open on April 11 in Amman and cooperation between the council and the Jordanian Justice Ministry in judicial affairs. Mr. Miko arrived in Amman Monday for talks on the upcoming conference.

U.S. official to deliver lecture today

AMMAN (J.T.) — On Wednesday, Feb. 18, at 7:00 p.m. the American Centre will present former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Ambassador Michael Serner in a lecture on the U.S. political agenda for 1987/1988 and the Middle East. Ambassador Serner is the managing director and partner of the International Relations Consultants Group. He had a long career with the American Foreign Service in the Middle East. In 1977 he was named as deputy assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs and held that position until he retired in 1981. Ambassador Serner is a member of the National Advisory Council of the American-Arab Affairs Council, the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations, the American Institute for Islamic Affairs, the Council on Foreign Relations and was a founding member of the International Council for Dispute Resolution. Ambassador Serner has written extensively about the Middle East.

PSD director returns from Riyadh

AMMAN (Petra) — Public Security Department (PSD) Director Lieutenant General Abdul Hadi Al Majali returned to Amman on Tuesday after taking part in a meeting of a committee charged with preparing a programme for Arab police chiefs. The programme will be carried out by the Riyadh-based Arab centre for studies on security and training. The committee groups a number of Arab police chiefs and experts from the Riyadh centre who hold annual meetings in Riyadh.

W. Germany gives bus to school

IRBID (Petra) — West Germany on Tuesday made a special gift of a mini-bus and a collection of books to the Wasfi Tal Industrial School in Irbid. The gift was presented by West German Ambassador to Jordan Herwig Bartels to the school's principal during a visit to the school. The principal made a speech in which he voiced Jordan's appreciation for West Germany's continued help to Jordan's educational institutions in general and the Wasfi Tal Industrial School in particular. The ceremony was attended by the director of education in Irbid and other officials.

Syrian agri-engineers arrive

RAMTHA (Petra) — A delegation representing the Syrian agricultural engineers association arrived here by land for a four-day visit to Jordan and talks with the Jordanian Agricultural Engineers' Association. The delegation will discuss cooperation between Syrian and Jordanian agricultural engineers associations and the possibility of implementing joint programmes and exchanging expertise. The delegation, led by Dr. Yahya Bakour, will tour a number of agricultural projects and industrial concerns in the Kingdom.

Development programme part of Jordan's continuing assistance to occupied territories, Dudin says

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin said Tuesday that Jordan has never stopped extending assistance to the people of the occupied Arab lands ever since Israel occupied the territory in 1967.

In a lecture to the International Diplomats Club in Amman, the minister said that the Jordanian-sponsored five year economic and social plan for the occupied territories represented an extension of assistance to the Arab people living under Israeli rule.

What is new about the idea is that it fixes a timetable for implementing projects designed to enhance the economic, social and health infrastructure of the occupied Arab territories with the intention of boosting the indigenous population's steadfastness in the face of Israel's designs aimed at evicting them from their homeland, the minister stressed. He said that the maintenance of official departments and services in the occupied territory have helped to solve many problems and have eased a lot of obstacles facing the Arab population as a result of the Israeli occupation.

In his lecture, the minister spoke at length about Israel's malpractices, the arbitrary measures carried out in the occupied regions and the daily sufferings of the Arab population. He also reviewed the different stages through which the Palestine problem passed since the turn of the present century.

In addition, Mr. Dudin briefed the audience on the Jordanian government's services offered to the displaced population of the occupied regions through the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs. These services and different forms of assistance have been reaching 13 refugee camps

in the East Bank of Jordan where refugees have been living since the eviction from their homeland, the minister said.

Refugee camps

Mr. Dudin said that the camps in the East Bank are of two categories, those set up after the 1948 war and those which were erected after the 1967 war, for which the government shares responsibility in cooperation with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

Answering questions from the audience, the minister reiterated Jordan's commitment to working for a just and lasting peace settlement and said that the just peace sought by Jordan could not be achieved except through an international conference which should be attended by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and the participation of all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Mr. Dudin said that subcommittees formed by the higher committee for occupied territories affairs have just completed arrangements for implementing the five-year development programme in the occupied territories and has worked out a list of projects to be carried out there. Tenders for these projects will be announced in the coming days, the minister disclosed.

He said that within the development plan there will be more allocations for carrying out specific projects, and these will



Marwan Dudin

be financed through special contributions.

Implementation committees formed

Meanwhile, subcommittees formed by the higher committee on Tuesday issued a list of 50 names grouped in eight committees to take charge of the implementation of different projects in the occupied West Bank. The committees will be in charge of the following areas: Jerusalem, Jenin, Nablus, Tulkarm and Qalqilia, Ramallah, Jericho, Bethlehem and Hebron.

In addition to these, deputies in the Lower House of Parliament will be participating in the work of the committees in their respective West Bank constituencies, according to a statement from the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs. The statement said that the ministry will make the necessary arrangements for holding meetings between the committees' rapporteurs prior to embarking on the implementation of the economic and social programmes in the occupied territories.

Industrial products to go on display in Oman

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian industrial fair is due to open in Muscat, Oman, next Tuesday, according to a spokesman for the Jordanian Trade Centres Corporation (JTCC), which is organising the fair in cooperation with the Amman Chamber of Industry.

The spokesman said that some 65 Jordanian businesses and industrial concerns are taking part in the 10-day fair which will display a variety of Jordanian industrial products.

During the fair, the Royal Jordanian airline will organise three variety shows, featuring exhibitions of artistic and archaeological sites in the Kingdom and performances of national folk troupes.

According to the spokesman, the fair will allow the participating Jordanian firms to sell their products directly to the Omani public and merchants may take orders for more shipments. The fair, in implementation of a bilateral trade and economic protocol signed last year, is bound to bolster Omani-Jordanian ties and trade links, the spokesman added.

He said that the JTCC plans to hold similar fairs in Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and Egypt with the purpose of promoting the sale of Jordanian products.

Hamzeh back from Nairobi talks on mother, child care

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh returned to Amman on Tuesday after participating in an international conference on motherhood which ended in Nairobi, Kenya last Friday.

In a statement upon his return, the minister said that the participating delegations discussed a number of important studies prepared by specialists, world organisations and medical associations on means of providing protection to mothers and pregnant women.

The delegations recommended that the safety of mothers and children should be given additional attention when implementing national health programmes and primary health schemes, and that more care should be given to pregnant women, especially the provision of transport to the nearest emergency centres and hospitals. The conference also urged that more mother and child centres be set up and entrusted with the task of spreading awareness on family health care, the minister said.

Dr. Hamzeh said that the conference pointed out that nearly half a million pregnant women in Third World countries die annually. But he noted that the mortality rate among pregnant women in Jordan is comparatively low as a result of relatively good health care provided by the Ministry of Health and through mother and child centres around the Kingdom.

Dr. Hamzeh said that his ministry plans to carry out an integrated study on the situation of mother and child care in the Kingdom with the purpose of introducing measures to further reduce mortality rates among mothers and children.

Seminar discusses papers on handling chemical substances

AMMAN (J.T.) — A seminar on safety measures to be taken when handling chemical substances on Tuesday discussed five working papers presented by the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Royal Scientific Society (RSS).

The papers dealt with Jordan's laws and regulations governing the handling of chemical substances, conditions for storing and transporting these substances and precautionary measures that must be provided.

The three-day seminar was opened on Monday by Dr. Munther Al Masri, director of the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC), who deputised for Labour Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan.

Mr. Serra and the visiting delegation were expected to tour a number of Jordanian military installations on Wednesday, the sources said.

Jordan signed a \$90 million contract for 16 C101 Spanish trainer aircraft in December 1985. Delivery of the 16 aircraft for the Royal Jordanian Air Force (RJAF) was postponed from June last year, and well-placed military sources said the planes would arrive here in about four months.

King receives Yemeni message

(Continued from page 1)

ambassador to North Yemen. The Yemeni side included the under secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the under secretary of the Ministry of Health, assistant secretary general of the Ministry of Education and North Yemen's ambassador to Jordan. The agency said that the committee will resume meetings on Wednesday.

Upon his arrival in Amman earlier Tuesday, the Yemeni minister said the committee meetings would focus on basic issues of concern to both countries with special attention to economic, social and technical cooperation.

Dr. Iryani described Jordanian-Yemeni relations as excellent and marked with brotherly cooperation.

Jordan Times

The Jordan Times is a daily newspaper published in Jordan by the Jordan Press Foundation. It is the largest and most influential newspaper in Jordan.

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Distracting tensions

AS suddenly as tension reached a most worrisome peak along their common border in the volatile Punjab in the last days of January, India and Pakistan announced on Feb. 5 that they had reached a 10-point accord to defuse the situation. Most Third World countries, especially those which are keen on pursuing development through mutual cooperation, heaved a sigh of great relief. It now seems the Indo-Pakistan equation is stabilising with the withdrawal of the bulk of the two rival forces, which had been on a red alert since Jan. 24, from the border.

Notwithstanding the gratifying nature of the latest accord between the two rivals, the sudden escalation and de-escalation of tension between them underline the mutual distrust and unstable nature of their relations. One cannot rule out an armed conflict breaking out the next time the two countries clash head on, especially, considering that this latest flare-up was triggered only by the mobilisation of forces and not by an armed provocation or infiltration along the border. It only took the presence of large forces on both sides of the border for legitimate reasons — arguable though their natures were — to sound off alarm bells.

For the moment, the episode appears to be behind the two countries which have fought three wars since independence from Britain in 1947. Distrust and suspicion have been the main features of dealings between them despite their close cooperation on regional economic and developmental integration in South Asia. Perhaps the only survivor of the long-running conflict is the regular cricket matches between their national teams.

What does it all indicate? Either the differences between the two states run too deep to be settled in a hurry, or the conflict is superficial, a distraction for both countries from their grave internal problems. Whatever the reason for this incident, the threat and danger are still very much alive of an all-out armed confrontation breaking out between them, each taking up arms for its own reasons. We in the Third World can only hope that sense will prevail and the leaders of the two powerful countries will use their heads rather than guns to settle their differences. The two nations should help clear the way towards enhanced cooperation and coordination among developing nations among whom both countries have constructive roles to play.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Asking for more

THE government's recent measures to reduce public expenditure is a wise step aimed at preventing any crisis which other countries had faced due to their failure in adopting precautionary measures in advance. The government's decision came in time and at the proper moment so that the country can avoid further financial difficulties and economic problems. Of course such a decision would not impede the process of development and building the country but would rather enable the government to save sufficient funds needed to finance development projects. The curbing of allowances and avoiding unnecessary trips abroad by officials are matters that we welcome because they would save hard currency and provide the country with enough funds for spending on other more important affairs. The government has taken measures to reduce the bills of fuel, electricity and water and to cut the additional money paid to government employees for doing overtime work; and all this will definitely lead to saving huge funds that could be spent on more useful matters and benefit the whole country rather than a small group of people. We appreciate the government's measures and look forward to other moves that aim at saving public funds and providing cash for financing projects of which the country is in dire need for.

Al Dustour: They set the example

DESPITE their limited means for resisting Israel's illegal measures and arbitrary actions, our kinsmen under occupation rule continue to confront the enemy and rise up against repression. The Palestinian people have been expressing their indignation and anger at the continued siege of Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon and have been protesting against Israeli measures taken against them in the occupied territories. Their action is a natural response to events in the region and a show of resistance to enemy actions. The Israelis for their part, have been escalating their repressive measures against our people in the occupied territories and continuing to confront the defenseless people with all forms of weapons. But it is regrettable to see that the Arab countries continuing to watch without lifting a finger to extend help to their brothers in their ordeal. The Arab World deeply divided as it is, is in a weak position, and its countries are continuing to live through their disputes and their differences, totally oblivious of what is happening inside the occupied land. The uprising against the enemy in occupied Palestine should have prompted the Arabs to unify their steps and their ranks and take joint action for liberating their usurped land. We are deeply proud of the resistance activity carried out by our kinsmen in the occupied territory and we share with the Palestinian people now under Israel's rule their sad feelings and their anger over what is going on in the camps in Lebanon. We appeal to the Arab World at large to end its internal disputes and extend support for the Arab people in their struggle to regain their freedom and their land.

Sawt Al Shaab: Shamir in Washington

ISRAELI Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is being welcomed in Washington these days as a full partner in the U.S.-Iranian arms deals and as orchestrator of the relations between the United States and Iran. He is in Washington to reap the fruit of his government's success in bringing closer the Americans and the Iranians, and is being welcomed as an ally to the United States and an instrument for implementing the U.S.-Israel-Iran hostile policy towards the Arab Nation. Shamir went to the United States with the blessing of the Labour Party and its leading member Yitzhak Rabin who said that U.S. arms to Iran will continue to serve the interests of Tel Aviv and Washington alike. Shamir is in the United States to plan further action and to arrange further deals that would enhance the might of the enemies of the Arab Nation and cause Iran to adhere to its intransigent stand, with regard to peace with Iraq, Israel is no more a broker in the game of supplying arms to Iran but it is more of a partner in a package deal designed to strengthen the enemies of the Arab Nation. Israel will continue to allow Iranians to have their influence in South Lebanon in return for Iran's continued war against Iraq. Thus the Arabs would never get rid of their conflict and would remain as weak as ever.

Nabila Silbaq Breir: A true martyr

By Zahra Al Bahr

PALESTINIANS use the word *shahid* (martyr) for all who fall in the national struggle. Few have deserved this honour more than Nabila Breir, assassinated by gunmen in west Beirut on her way to her job in UNICEF on 18 December. The title befits her life, which was one of exceptionally energetic, committed work for the people of the camps, as well as it marks her death, the result of carrying on her work in the face of direct personal threat.

While still a student, in the late '60s, Nabila Breir taught volunteer adult literacy classes in Tel Al Zaatar camp. This enthusiasm for social development work, and the special interest in education for those deprived of it, were the driving force of her professional life, sustaining her through the personal and collective tragedies that have befallen over the Palestinians in Lebanon. Like many of her generation, she was activated by the resistance movement; more than most, however, she translated nationalism into work on the ground, struggling inside the institutions she worked for, Palestinian and international, for a level of effort corresponding to the sacrifices and suffering of the people with whom she so strongly identified. Hoosely, drive, and a ready anger at official incompetence or corruption, made her outstanding in the posts she held.

The bare bones of her C.V. tell little more than her persistence, for in spite of marriage in 1970 to Hanna Breir, the birth of a daughter Abeer, continuous crises, two major wars, and severe personal tragedy (her parents and young sister were killed in 1975 by Christian militia), there are few breaks. After graduating from Beirut University College in 1969 she worked in turn with the Palestine Research Centre, the Planning Centre, Dar Al Fata, the PLO political office, from 1980-1983 with UNESCO. In January 1984 she became officer in charge of UNICEF's programme for Palestinians.

After the Israeli invasion of 1982, many Palestinians who had been active in the social infrastructure of the PLO left Lebanon, while others kept a low profile. Those ready to carry on social development work in the camps were reduced to a handful. Of this handful, Nabila was a key figure on whom others depended, coordinating a wide range of medical, educational, and social support projects.

When it was first set up, before the war, UNICEF's programme for Palestinians did not have the scope or importance it later assumed. From her appointment at the beginning of 1984, Nabila pushed the boundaries of her job

to its limits, travelling to all the camps in Lebanon, even to clusters not recognised by UNRWA as camps, installing wells and sewage systems, improving mother and child care services, raising standards of teachers, helping to get shelter for people displaced by fighting. Camp popular committees came to know well her tall, raincoated figure, uncoiffed hair, flat sensible shoes and bulging briefcase. They knew that, unlike so many officials, she could be relied on.

As tension between Amal and the Palestinians rose, Nabila's work in coordinating the relief and development institutions helping Palestinians became even more important. The value of her UNICEF post lay not in its rank, which was low in the U.N. hierarchy, but in Nabila's determination to bring from it every scrap of benefit for the Palestinian people, no matter whom she had to fight with on the way. Arab battle ethics are supposed to protect women and those who do social or humanitarian work from attack. Without realising it, through the energy with which she carried out her job, Nabila moved from her rear into the front line, becoming a target for forces hostile to Palestinian survival in Lebanon. Her contribution to "steadfastness" had been too great.

Though her work was with Palestinians, Nabila never drew lines between the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. In 1983, with characteristic generosity, she offered her experience of international aid agencies to Mrs. Randa Berri, when Amal began setting up social services for the Shi'ite poor. After the first threats against her, she gave up using the UNICEF car to which she had a right, so as not to endanger the driver, a Shi'ite. Only days before her death, she signed an order for supplies to be distributed to Shi'ites living in areas around the camps. Attacks on institutions in west Beirut that do not employ enough Shi'ites, or not in senior posts, have been a regular feature of Amal hegemony. Nabila's assassination may have been a particularly brutal message to UNICEF to abolish its programme for Palestinians, or to appoint an Amal-approved candidate.

The first clear danger signal came in April 1986, when Hanna Breir was taken from the house at night by militia. The Breir home is part of a small Christian Palestinian enclave in the heart of Muslim Musiteh, established since the early '50s. It happens also to be the quarter where Amal leader Nabih Berri lives, and is heavily "guarded" by Amal militia who have not coo-

ceded their hostility to Palestinians in the area. Many homes here have been occupied, and their occupants forced to leave. During a two-hour interrogation, Hanna Breir was minutely questioned about Nabila's activities and visitors. In addition, she was reminded of the fate of Abu Gaby, a neighbour, also a Christian Palestinian, who had died under militia "arrest" in December 1985. Two weeks later, the body of a Christian Lebanese employee of MEA, where Hanna works, was discovered. Disturbed, the Breirs left to visit relatives in Abu Dhabi, returning at the beginning of September. Relief efforts for Palestinians made homeless by the battles of May/June had been paralysed by the absence of Nabila. Messages were sent urging her to come back. Nabih Berri gave a personal guarantee of safety.

It is a sign of the intimidation of the Beirut media that Nabila Breir's assassination, shocking even by Beirut standards, since it was committed in broad daylight, against a woman (the first), and a U.N. official, was hardly reported. However the reactions of ordinary people, Lebanese as well as Palestinian, belied the media silence. Everywhere, in offices, on street corners, people expressed their anger and grief.

praising Nabila Breir as a woman who worked honestly, and for the people. Few of the great have such an epitaph.

No commemoration of Nabila Breir would be complete without speaking of her Palestinianism, which was without trace of chauvinism, but which coloured her whole personality, her humanity, her way of working — perhaps even more her way of being a wife, mother, friend. There was something very Palestinian and very Palestinian-womanlike in the way she dealt with things. No matter who went to her, whether it was a woman needing open-heart surgery, a girl who had been raped, or a foreign medical worker looking for somewhere to stay, Nabila Breir listened, helped never pleading tiredness or the priority of her work. She drew no lines between "job" and "home", between "colleagues" and "friends". Her home was always open; no time was too early or too late. At a party held only a few weeks before her death, a friend described her as singing and dancing to the beat as if she hadn't a care in the world. Both in sorrow and in joy she was very Palestinian. Perhaps this is how she would have liked to be remembered — Middle East International, London.

Opposition set for more seats in Egypt's April poll

By John Rogers
Reuters

CAIRO — Egyptian opposition parties look likely to win more seats in parliament in elections on April 6, but Hosni Mubarak's presidency is not on the line.

The election, announced by Mubarak after an overwhelming referendum vote last Thursday to dissolve the people's assembly two years ahead of time, will be only for a new legislature.

Five legal opposition parties will fight the National Democratic Party (NDP) headed by Mubarak for 448 elected seats. Unlike the last election in 1984, independents will run too.

Barroo major upsets — and no one is in prospect — the result will be another crushing majority for the NDP, which held 391 seats in the old house against 57 for the opposition.

The real constitutional seat of power in the most populous Arab country, the executive presidency filled by Mubarak since 1981, will not change as a result of the election.

Nor will the three-month-old government of Prime Minister Atef Sedki, appointed by Mubarak.

Though he denied the charge, opposition leaders said the president's main motive in ending the life of the old assembly was to forestall a legal challenge to its constitutionality before it nominated him for a second term next October.

Mubarak, 58, was catapulted into power in October 1981 after Muslim zealots shot dead President Anwar Sadat and must go through the formality of seeking a second six-year term.

Because of a lawsuit challenging the constitutional status of the electoral law under which the assembly was elected in 1984, the NDP rushed through changes last December. A verdict in the case is due next month.

One December amendment — reserving 48 seats for independent, non-party candidates — is

expected to ensure that the opposition wins more seats than it did in 1984.

The opposition complains, however, that it has only a slender chance of showing its real strength under the "party slate" proportional representation system and the amendments do not go far enough.

Opposition leader Fouad Serageddin has called for a new constitution featuring, among other provisions, direct election of the president rather than nomination by the people's assembly of a single candidate to be confirmed by plebiscite.

Mubarak last week described Egypt's political system as one of "doses of democracy."

"We give as many doses of democracy as we believe our people can tolerate," he said, accusing Egypt's foreign critics of giving "a quarter of these doses."

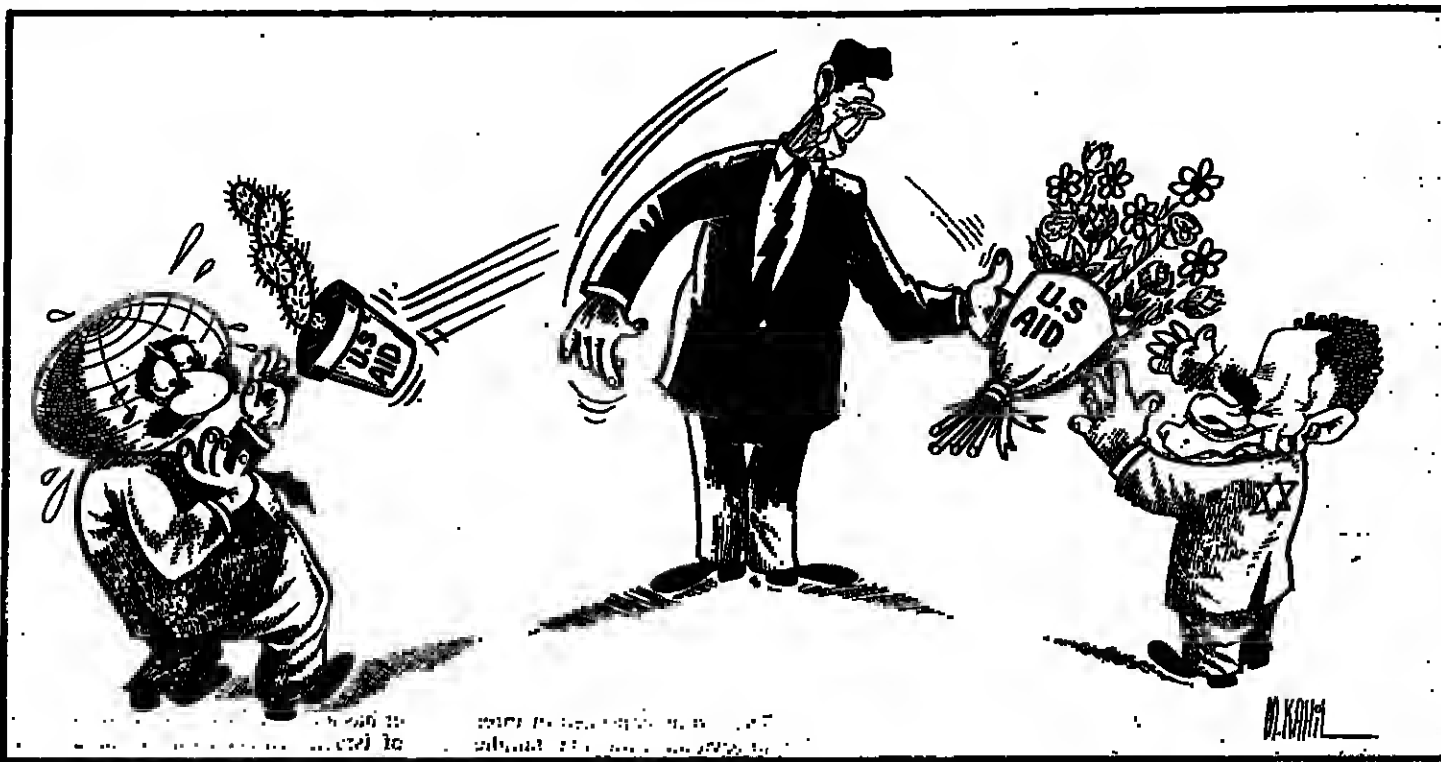
In a nationwide broadcast on Monday, he said Egypt had come a long way as a democracy and called the April election "a new beginning."

Opposition complaints centre on a legal requirement, unchanged by the December amendments, that they must get eight per cent of the total vote to take up any of the seats they win.

In 1984, only Serageddin's right-wing New Wafd Party won enough of the vote — 16 per cent — to take up its seats. Three members of the opposition Socialist Labour Party (SLP) got seats by order of the president, who can appoint 10 members of the assembly.

Plans for a united opposition ticket for April, with all five parties running under the New Wafd name to break the eight per cent barrier and win more seats collectively, have already crumbled because the New Wafd turned down the idea.

An electoral alliance between other parties is likely, however. More than 14 million people will be eligible to vote in 48 constituencies for lists of candidates named by each party.



Mrs. Aquino faces challenge in military

By Criselda Yabes
The Associated Press

MANILA — A year ago, President Corazon Aquino was learning how to march and salute. Now she is taking steps to assert control over the 250,000-member armed forces she inherited from ousted President Ferdinand E. Marcos.

Last week, Mrs. Aquino held talks with middle-grade officers, her first attempt to reconcile "my soldiers" after coup attempts and opposition within the ranks to her new draft constitution.

"For the first time, everybody was just so open and I was so glad about this," Mrs. Aquino said of the meeting. "In fact, I would like this to be on a continuing basis."

During the two meetings, officers representing all major services complained that they had been neglected and shut out in crucial decisions regarding the 18-year-old Communist insurgency.

"The soldiers are giving a signal to the government ... that perhaps at this stage, it's not so much material needs but psychological needs," said Chief of Staff Gen. Fidel V. Ramos.

Some senior officers said they believe Mrs. Aquino is moving in the right direction by talking to military men below the rank of general.

"Now is the time to develop the armed forces, said a colonel, who spoke on condition he not be identified by name.

"The soldier's mind is simple — just give him a direction," said one lieutenant at the Ministry of National Defense, who also spoke on condition of anonymity. "She has the makings of a leader but it depends on how she wards off advice given to her," by presidential aides who are unpopular with the military.

At the outset, Mrs. Aquino was viewed as a commander-in-chief who lacked control of her men. Some of them privately ridiculed her, resisted orders and even conspired against her.

Of the discontent in the military, Ramos said, "We can put that matter to rest now because we have seen how the armed forces have reacted and acted to the various crises that confronted our country."

Ironically, the president was swept into power by the armed forces less than three years after the military was accused in the

assassination of her husband, Benigno. More than 20 soldiers face a new trial on murder charges, but Mrs. Aquino has said she does not blame the military for the actions of some "misguided elements."

"President Aquino has actually done more in her short time as president to better the lot of the average soldier than Marcos did in his entire 20 years," wrote Arlene Babst-Volke, a columnist of the respected Manila Chronicle.

Marcos, who ruled the country for 20 years, pampered generals with money and access to power in exchange for their loyalty, while lower-ranking officers suffered in battle without proper supplies.

Mrs. Aquino has retired over-staying generals who served under Marcos. She also has promised soldiers higher pay once the economy starts moving. Once, she donated money to a foundation for families of dead soldiers.

But some disgruntled middle-level officers in a reformist group that led last year's military revolt claimed that Mrs. Aquino allowed some graft and favourit-

ism in her government, and that she has ignored suggestions from the military.

Brig. Gen. Alexander Aguirre, acting commander of the Manila region, said 90 per cent of the armed forces remain professional in maintaining the rule of civilian supremacy over the military.

He cautioned, however, that the "military might rise again" if the government fails.

"If the Cory government is strong and it is doing good for the country in really implementing the constitution, then there will be no grudge from the military," Aguirre said.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Aquino appears more ready to act the military commander-in-chief.

Last March, before appearing at a parade for graduating cadets, Mrs. Aquino asked her senior aide-de-camp, "Is it really important to salute?" She was told it was.

Just a few weeks ago, when she summoned an officer to her office, the soldier, as a sign of respect, purposely wore a pair of shoes with rubber soles so that when he raised a salute and snapped to attention, no sound was heard.

Reagan's personality, once lauded, now deemed liability

By Christopher Hanson
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Until the Iran scandal sent his presidency into a nose-dive and raised questions about his competence, Ronald Reagan's relaxed personality and management style were widely praised across the country.

Many saw the president as genial, serene, reassuring.

He seemed to exude confidence, optimism and determination after a period of national malaise brought on by Watergate, Vietnam, and President Jimmy Carter's Iran hostage crisis.

Fortune magazine, in a September cover story titled "What managers can learn from Manager Reagan," quoted his success formula "I surround myself with the best people, delegate authority, and don't interfere" and concluded: "He has proved once again that the presidency is manageable."

Now critics are laying blame for the Iran scandal on flaws in

Reagan's style and faulting him for passivity, lack of knowledge or curiosity and excessive delegation of authority.

"This disaster throws a pitiless light on the way the president does his job," Time magazine declared recently.

The fault-finders say Reagan accepted without serious question his aides' proposal to sell arms to Iran in an evident bid to gain release of U.S. hostages held in Lebanon — even though he had publicly branded Iran a terrorist state and vowed repeatedly never to negotiate with terrorists.

They say Reagan let aide Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North accumulate great foreign policy power which, it is alleged, he abused to divert arms profits to Nicaraguan contra rebels.

The shift of attitude seems to extend to the grass roots. The Roosevelt Centre for American Policy sampled opinion among voters in New Hampshire and Iowa, two states with key roles in the presidential nomination process, and found deep dissatisfaction with Reagan's de-

tailed style of governing.

The think-tank's report said people in both states wanted "a hands-on statesman" in the White House next time around, and offered this typical quote from a woman in Iowa: "I honestly don't know if he knew about (controversial aspects of the Iran deal) and he's lying, or he just delegated his power and doesn't know. Either one is scary."

Close students of Reagan say his troubles should not be surprising and that his earlier successes and recent failures stem from the same cluster of traits.

"We've learned nothing about him that we didn't know already," says Lou Cannon, a Washington Post White House correspondent who has covered Reagan for more than 20 years and has written a biography of him.

Cannon asserted a year ago in a newspaper column that the president was disengaged from reality, that his administration ran on automatic pilot with too much delegated power and that "eve-

ntually isolation is likely to extract a price."

Duke University's James Barber, author of a historical study titled "The Presidential Character," classifies Reagan as "passive-positive," the same type as William Howard Taft in the early 1900s and Warren Harding in the 1920s, whose scandal-ridden administration was a disaster.

They are hardly in the same class as Reagan, whose policy successes have left a strong imprint on U.S. politics.

But Barber says the three do share certain traits.

"Passive-positives ... are responders, not initiators or pushers, but they go about their work with ... and appearance of affectionate hopefulness," he says. "They accentuate the positive. They boost. They sympathize."

White House insiders have said Reagan rarely initiates policies or asks questions about background detail.

Given the right script, he is a stirring cheerleader for his poli-

cies. The trouble seems to come when he gets the wrong advice or loses track of what subordinates are doing.

"(Passive-positives) are, in many ways, nice guys who finished first, only to discover that not everyone is a nice guy," Barber said in his book.

Harding, who served as president from 1921 until his death in 1923, was betrayed by aides who embroiled his administration in a notorious oil-lease bribery scandal.

Reagan, facing his own scandal, is blaming aides who, he says, exceeded their authority in the contra aid diversion.

According to Barber, passive-positives crave acclaim. Assessing Reagan's character in an article published when he took office in January 1981, he wrote: "The worst fear is that Reagan, seeking affection, will have disaster thrust upon him."

The furore over the Iran affair originated with the sale of arms to Iran in what many see, despite Reagan's disclaimers, as an arms-for-hostages deal — a bid to win

freedom for Americans and, critics charge, acclaim from a public that had been clamouring for him to do something about the hostages.

Those who question Reagan's style also note he has built up a record of verbal gaffes that suggest he is out of touch with reality — saying that Soviets were "on a starvation diet of sawdust," or that trees cause air pollution.

After last year's abortive superpower summit in Iceland, Reagan appeared unable to explain precisely what arms cut proposals he and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had made.

Despite criticism for alleged shortcomings, Reagan remained immensely popular until the Iran scandal erupted.

He captivated the country with a combination of stirring rhetoric and genial demeanor and made America feel good.

"In retrospect," says presidential scholar Stephen Hess of the Brookings Institution, "historians could question whether we really had a right to feel that good."

American NBA roundup

Utah trounces Boston

NEW YORK (AP) — While the Boston Celtics were having problems with Utah's Karl Malone, the Phoenix Suns had double Malone trouble.

Karl Malone scored 25 points and pulled down 15 rebounds and the Utah reserves outscored the Boston bench 56-6 as the Jazz defeated the Celtics 109-89 Monday night.

Meanwhile, Jeff Malone tied his season-high with 38 points and Moses Malone shook off the flu to score 36 and pull down a game-high 11 rebounds as the Washington Bullets beat the Phoenix Suns 124-110.

In other NBA games, it was Cleveland 105, Seattle 94; Houston 105, Dallas 100; Milwaukee 128, New Jersey 124; Sacramento 124, Chicago 120 in overtime; Philadelphia 111, New York 101; Indiana 112, Golden State 93; and Portland 110, Los Angeles Clippers 105.

Cavaliers 105, SuperSonics 94. Ron Harper scored 28 points and Brad Daugherty 21 while Cleveland held high-scoring Tom Chambers and Xavier McDaniel to a combined 16 points in handing visiting Seattle its sixth straight setback.

Rockets 105, Mavericks 100. Houston's Akeem Olajuwon scored 36 points and blocked a shot by Rolando Blackman with 13 seconds to pace the Rockets. Blackman, who scored 22 points,

could have put Dallas in the lead but Olajuwon's block kept Houston in front.

Bucks 128, Nets 124. Sidney Moncrief, in his second game back from an injury, scored 30 points to pass the 10,000-point career mark in helping Milwaukee to its fifth straight victory. Ricky Pierce led Milwaukee with 23 points, while Buck Williams and Mike Gminski had 22 apiece for visiting New Jersey.

Kings 124, Bulls 120. Sacramento's Eddie Johnson scored seven of his 17 points in overtime and Otis Thorpe led the Kings with 29 points. Chicago's Michael Jordan led all scorers with 43 points, while Dave Corzine had a season-high 26.

76ers 111, Knicks 101. Charles Barkley scored 17 points and grabbed 19 rebounds while Tim McCormick had 19 points to lead six Philadelphia players in double figures. Patrick Ewing led New York with 24 points.

Pacers 112, Warriors 93. Indiana used Chuck Person's 25 points and a club record 40-point first quarter to beat Golden State.

Trail Blazers 110, Clippers 105.

Clyde Drexler tied his season high with 36 points and Jerome Kersey added 19 in place of the injured Kiki Vandeweghe.

Britain's Gomer upsets Phelps in women's tennis

BOCA RATON, Florida (AP) — Unseeded Sara Gomer of Britain overcame two match points in a tense third-set tiebreaker to upset no. 10 seed Terry Phelps 7-5, 2-6, 7-6 in the first round of the \$250,000 Virginia Slims of Florida women's tennis tournament.

Other winners in a first-day programme hampered by rain and gale-force winds included ninth-seeded Raffaella Reggi of Italy, 14th-seeded Sabrina Goleis of Yugoslavia and unseeded Elena Reinach of South Africa.

The top eight seeds, including no. 1 seed Chris Evert Lloyd, weren't scheduled to play Monday.

Gomer, a tall left-hander, said the weather conditions didn't bother her in her victory over Phelps, of the United States. "The wind was good for me," Gomer said after winning the tiebreaker 10-8 on her second match point.

Phelps, ranked 21st in the world, lost service in the 11th game of the first set but went up 3-0 in the third set, but Phelps rallied to send the match into a final tiebreaker.

Phelps led 8-7 for her second match point but suddenly fell into a rash of errors, hitting a backhand long to make it 8-all, missing a crosscourt forehand to give Gomer her second match point and then ending the match for Gomer with another backhand error.

Reggi stopped 18-year-old Patricia Tarabini of Argentina.

Goleis, down 0-3 in the first set, eliminated Mercedes Paz of Argentina 6-4, 6-3.

Reinach, another 18-year-old who holds a no. 48 world ranking, beat Nathalie Tauziat of France 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 to earn a second-round match against Lloyd Tuesday night.

Lloyd, who ranks second in the world and spent the last five months healing a knee injury, will be making her first tournament start since losing in the semifinals of the U.S. Open to Helena Sukova last September.

Other winners Monday afternoon included Gigi Fernandez of Puerto Rico, Helen Kelesi of Canada, and Americans Gretchen Rush Magers and Lisa Bonder.

Dynamo Minsk wins in N-Zealand

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand (AP) — Dynamo Minsk lived up to its reputation as one of the classic soccer teams to tour New Zealand with an easy 2-0 win over the All Whites in the final game of the series Tuesday night.

The skilful Soviet players hardly got out of second gear as they swept to their third victory

of the four-match series, captain Georgi Kondratiev striking twice in the second half to ruin New Zealand's hopes.

The Russians impressed with their willingness to spread the ball wide and commit players forward, having the All Whites stretched for most of the game, while tight marking again kept the home team scoreless.

Adams makes debut for England in tie with Spain

MADRID (R) — Arsenal's central defender Tony Adams will make his England debut in today's friendly against an impressive looking Spanish side.

Adams, 20, latest in a long line of partners for Terry Butcher, will have club mates Viv Anderson and Kenny Sansom alongside him.

England manager Bobby Robson demonstrated his seemingly unshakable faith in midfielder Bryan Robson by picking the injury-prone Manchester United player even though he has only just returned from a six-week layoff with a hamstring problem.

Robson had no place for Tottenham marksman Clive Allen, who heads the domestic scoring list with 34 goals this season.

Instead, Gary Lineker and Peter Beardsley have the job of prising open a Spanish defence which performed with great credit in the World Cup finals.

No one knows better than Lineker how hard it will be for England to find a way past Andoni Zubizarreta. The Barcelona goalkeeper has conceded just 13 goals in 27 league matches this season — one fewer than his clubmate Lineker has knocked in against Spanish defence.

Amman Little League — Basketball

Matches for Feb. 13

JUNIORS			
Mercedes Benz	23	Near East	12
Nashashibi-Ebbini	12	Lego	8
MIDS			
Al Ahlyah	28	Furukawa	26
Service Master	34	Dorma	28
Jordan Lift	52	Istaklal	12
San Remo	28	Jordan Express	23
SENIORS			
Marriott	40	Signode	34
Intercontinental	38	Squibb	30
Jirpac	32	Cairo-Amman	23

Standings through Feb. 13

JUNIORS			WINS	LOSSES
Nashashibi & Ebbini	7	0		
Lego	3	4		
Near East	2	5		
Mercedes Benz	2	5		
MIDS				
Service Master	6	1		
Dorma	5	2		
Jordan Lift	5	2		
Al Ahlyah	4	3		
Furukawa	4	3		
Istaklal	2	5		
San Remo	2	5		
Jordan Express	0	7		
SENIORS				
Signode	5	1		
Intercontinental	4	1		
Marriott	4	2		
Jirpac	3	2		
Squibb	1	2		
Cairo-Amman	0	6		

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

'Gorbachev' vodka stirs sports controversy

OBERSTDORF, West Germany (AP) — Organisers turned down a Soviet request for the removal of billboards advertising "Gorbatschow Vodka" during televised broadcasts of the Nordic Ski World Championships. The Soviet team had asked the organisers either to remove the signs or to have television cameras avoid the billboards during live coverage which is also being beamed to the Soviet Union. The name of the West German-produced Vodka is the same as the German spelling of the name of the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev. The Soviet team said in its request that Gorbachev was leading an anti-alcohol campaign in the Soviet Union and that it was inappropriate for Soviet television viewers to see the Vodka ads in broadcasts from the championships.

Table tennis drains Indian group's finances

NEW DELHI (AP) — The 39th Table Tennis Championship opening Wednesday is imposing a heavy financial burden on hosts India, and organisers face coming up short. M.C. Chowhan, director of the organising committee, told the Associated Press on Tuesday that the deficit would be about \$25,000 out of a total bill expected to run to about \$1 million. The Table Tennis Federation of India, a private organisation, is the official host and responsible for footing the bills. Federation officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said they were turned down by the Indian ministry of sports in a plea for the government to raise its contribution of 500,000 rupees (\$41,666). The federation was unable to raise as many sponsors as it had anticipated, and the sale of tickets also has been far from brisk.

England full-back has heart trouble

LONDON (R) — England full-back Kenny Sansom, whose father, brother and uncle have all suffered heart attacks, has disclosed that he too has a problem. The 28-year-old, who will win his 74th cap against Spain in Madrid on Wednesday, says in the Sun newspaper Tuesday that he has played throughout his career with a hereditary complaint. "I know I'll need a by-pass operation before the age of 50," he says. "Otherwise I'll almost certainly have a heart attack." His uncle died after an attack, his father has had a pacemaker fitted and his brother Peter, who is 38, suffered a second major attack a few weeks ago — six years after undergoing a by-pass operation. "The problem is always at the back of my mind," said the Arsenal star. "I know I'm going to have difficulties in years to come."

Seeds upset in California tennis

INDIAN WELLS, California (AP) — Martin Jaito of Argentina and Americans Kevin Curren and Aaron Krickstein were upset victims in first-round singles action of the \$435,000 Pilot Pen Classic men's tennis tournament. Jaito, seeded 11th, was beaten by Jakob Hlasek of Czechoslovakia 6-7, 6-2, 6-4. Curren, seeded 14th, was eliminated by Milan Srejber of Czechoslovakia 7-6, 7-6. Krickstein, seeded 15th, lost to compatriot Scott Davis 4-6, 6-4, 7-6. The only seeded players who won Monday to advance to the second round were ninth-seeded Kent Carlsson of Sweden, who downed Gary Donnelly of the United States, 7-6, 6-3, and 12th-seeded Thierry Tulasne of France, who whipped Barry Moor of South Africa 6-2, 6-3. The top eight seeds all had byes. Seeded first is Stefan Edberg of Sweden; seeded second is Boris Becker of West Germany; seeded third is Yannick Noah of France; and seeded fourth is Mats Wilander of Sweden.

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The Baghdad International School is closely associated with the UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA (ESCWA) Baghdad. The language of instruction is English and the school offers tuition from kindergarten to 12th grade; it also prepares students for GCE "O" and "A" levels. Essential qualifications: Minimum ten years solid experience relevant to education including at least five years as principal.

Director or other high level administrator preferably in international educational institutions. Languages: Fluency in English, knowledge of Arabic desirable.

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Contact UNDP, telephone 668171 Mr. Ahmad Ghadiah, Amman

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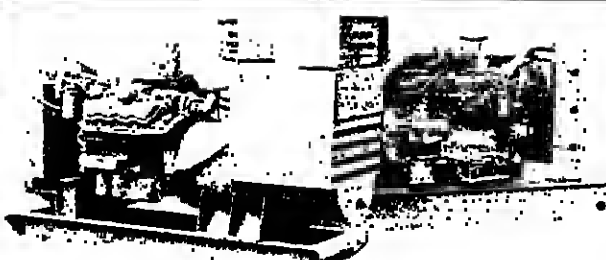
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LEGAL EAGLES



Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema

RAGHADAN

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HITCHER



Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 9:45

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the Loodoo foreign exchange and bullion markets on Tuesday.

One sterling	1.5290/5300	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3340/50	Canadian dollar
	1.8110/20	West German marks
	2.0450/60	Dutch guilders
	1.5300/50	Swiss francs
	37.45/50	Belgian francs
	6.0300/50	French francs
	1289/1290	Italian lire
	153.10/20	Japanese yen
	6.4740/90	Swedish crowns
	6.9600/50	Norwegian crowns
	6.8350/8400	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	396.90/397.40	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices stood slightly off Tuesday's record levels in late trading as some operators took profits, but the mood remained bullish after an early surge on Wall Street pushed the Dow Jones industrial average through the 2200 level, dealers said.

Prices were helped by a better than generally expected U.K. public sector borrowing requirement figure for January. The data showed a provisional net repayment of £3.7 billion against an average market forecast of a £2.5 billion surplus.

At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 was 13.1 points higher at 1,938.9 after a record high of 1,943.6 at 1355 GMT.

Dealers said given the better-than-expected PSBR figure many are hopeful that there will be scope for a reduction in domestic interest rates in the near term.

Optimism that the U.K. chancellor could implement tax cuts and reform in his March 17 budget has led to hopes of an increase in consumer spending, which together with a shortage of stock is helping to underpin the equity market.

Many in the market expect the FTSE 100 index will top the 2,000 mark before the budget, but dealers warned that if this figure is reached it could well trigger a substantial sell-off.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Put into motion whatever unusual progressive plans you have now, for acon you find that one who is very impulsive will try to thwart your efforts.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A new contact has the knowledge that can be helpful to you, so cultivate this person. Be tactful.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can keep the promises you have made in a most wise manner. Don't permit anything to disturb you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) An associate shows you how to gain a cherished desire. A friend later tries to change your plans, but hold your ground.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You can produce more at your job than usual. Later you find civic matters need your attention.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get some amusement or romance set up. Be very cooperative tonight and study something worthwhile.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Talk over with family members your practical matters. Get together with influential people and learn a good deal.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Be certain to get important letters out before you get together with associates. Have some fun tonight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get some financial or property affair settled. Plan for a greater abundance in the near future.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get into some personal activities that can be beneficial to you. Be with congenial tonight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Rid yourself of a problematical affair. Later please your family with the aid of a bigwig.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get in touch with a dynamic person you know. Plan a trip that will be taken soon.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Today is the best time to bundle some worldly affair. Be happy with the one you love tonight.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will have every ability to understand the problems of others and be able to help them to get the right solutions to them. Upon reaching maturity your progeny will want to make a sudden change, but this soon passes and he, or she, is willing to work hard.

Toyota's net profit drops

TOKYO (AP) — Toyota Motor Corp., Japan's largest automaker, said its net income for the six months ending in December fell by 44.4 per cent from a year earlier due to lower sales in South East Asia and the Middle East and currency exchange-rate losses.

Since September 1985, the Japanese yen has risen about 60 per cent against the U.S. dollar, making Japanese cars more expensive abroad and reducing the amount of yen exporters receive for dollars earned abroad.

A Toyota official said sales for the July-December period of 1986 totalled 3,025 billion yen (\$19.9 billion), down 4.6 per cent from a year earlier.

He attributed the decline of net income to 75.65 billion yen

(\$497.5 million) to currency exchange rate losses that totalled 210 billion yen (\$1.38 billion) in July-December, compared with 52 billion yen (\$342 million) in the same 1985 period.

Also during the period, Toyota's exports to South East Asia fell by 60.2 per cent from a year earlier to 28,393 cars and those to the Middle East fell by 59.5 per cent to 32,632.

Toyota said in an interim financial settlement report that prospects for the Japanese automobile industry are "likely to remain difficult," as stagnation in the U.S. economy and a slow-down of economic growth in developing nations are expected, along with a drop in price competitiveness due to the yen's appreciation.

Japanese steel companies plan to reduce workforce

TOKYO (R) — Japan's fourth largest steelmaker, Kawasaki Steel, has announced a plan to cut its workforce from 26,000 to 21,000 by March, 1989, oews reports said.

The announcement came during a meeting between company executives and labour union leaders at the headquarters of the company in Kobe, the Kyodo News Service and Tokyo Shimbun reported.

Kawasaki Steel also plans to shut down a roll steel mill in Chiba, near Tokyo, the reports said. Company officials were not available for comment.

Nippon Steel, Japan's largest steelmaker, said it would reduce

its 46,000-strong workforce involved in steel production by 19,000 through March, 1990, and shut down five of its 13 blast furnaces during the next two years.

Sumitomo Metal Industries and Koho Steel had already announced similar plans to streamline their operations in the face of the yen's appreciation against the dollar and increasing competition from newly industrialised countries, such as South Korea.

The last of the five largest steelmakers, Nippon Kokan, is expected to follow suit soon, the oews reports said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Egyptians give \$20m to repay debts

CAIRO (R) — Egyptians have donated more than \$20 million in response to an appeal by President Hosni Mubarak for help in repaying the nation's huge foreign debt, the semi-official Al Ahram newspaper said Tuesday. Al Ahram quoted presidential secretary-general, Mr. Zakaria Azmi as saying \$10 million went to Canada for wheat purchases. The donations poured in after President Mubarak made the appeal 15 months ago. Egypt's foreign debt is currently estimated at \$38.6 billion.

IMF lends Bangladesh \$284 million

WASHINGTON (AP) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) announced a \$284 million loan to Bangladesh. The government has promised in return to seek to raise the growth rate of the country, one of the world's poorest, to an annual five per cent, and to hold down both inflation and the budget deficit, the IMF said. Bangladesh already owes the fund about \$475 million. According to the World Bank, the country's average growth rate between 1965 and 1984 was only 0.6 per cent. The government will also try to increase individual savings and improve its financial system, the IMF said. A portion of the loan was granted because of the drop in the price of jute, the country's main export.

Turkish Airlines faces pay strike

ANKARA (R) — Staff working for state-owned Turkish Airlines said Tuesday they would strike from Thursday because five months of pay talks had failed to produce an agreement, the Anatolian Agency reported. It quoted Mr. Ibrahim Ozturk, chairman of the Hava-Is Union representing 5,000 airline workers, as saying: "Our struggle is economic and not ideological." The union sought a 35 per cent overall pay rise for the first year and 25 per cent for the following year, plus an increase in bonus payments from three to four a year. A spokesman for the management said its offer of pay rises of 30 per cent for the first year, 25 per cent for the next year and three and half bonuses a year was adequate. It was unclear whether Turkish Airlines could maintain services without members of Hava-Is, its main trade union. It has 31 aircraft and operates a large domestic network in addition to international routes to Europe and Asia.

\$150m Kuwaiti loan to Soviets seen as boost to political ties

KUWAIT (R) — The Soviet Union has raised a landmark \$150 million loan in Kuwait in what bankers see as a strategic bid to boost fledgling economic ties and cement political relations with the Gulf oil emirate.

The loan enhanced Moscow's higher profile in the Gulf and aroused interest from banks elsewhere in the Middle East looking for a stake, regional banking sources said.

Senior officials of the Soviet Foreign Trade Bank signed the eight-year, general-purpose commercial credit with a local consortium of nine financial institutions on Sunday.

The bank's deputy chairman, Mr. Vladimir Drovoskov, said later he had discussed further avenues for cooperation and explored ways to fund trade and joint ventures.

The loan was the first arranged by a Kuwaiti institution at Moscow's request.

"I would say it was a move from the Soviets to strengthen the relationship of the Soviet Union

and Kuwait," said a senior banker in the emirate, which has huge oil reserves.

Kuwait opened diplomatic links with Moscow in 1963 and, for 22 years, was the only Gulf Arab state with Soviet ties. But economic contacts were limited largely to buying arms.

Gulf bankers said other institutions in the area, mainly Bahrain, showed interest when they heard the loan was being put together. But Moscow wanted it limited to Kuwaiti banks.

Banking sources said Moscow's sound rating in world credit markets underlined the strategic nature of the loan.

"Internationally, when Russia approaches the market, there will often be an oversubscription ... this looks like a way to start a direct relationship with local

banks," said one source.

Bankers said enthusiasm in the region for the loan was encouraging for the Kremlin, which had repeatedly expressed a desire to develop trade and other economic links in the Gulf.

Soviet lending is not new to Kuwait institutions, who for some years have taken part in Western-based credit consortiums. But each commercial bank had its own closely-guarded strategy and details were hard to come by, bankers said.

The Soviet signing capped a flurry of exchanges in recent years between Moscow and Kuwait, which served as a springboard for Soviet diplomatic overtures to the rest of the Gulf.

Moscow, in 1985, formalised diplomatic relations with Oman and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). But the other members of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) — Bahrain, Qatar and Saudi Arabia — show no signs of seeking formal ties. Al Seyassah newspaper reported last June that Kuwait and

Moscow were to study joint investment projects in the Soviet Union and the Arab World worth \$1 billion.

The report came soon after Finance Minister Jassim Al Khorafi said Kuwait, with \$80 billion in petrodollar reserves held mostly in the West, planned to invest more in communist and Third World countries.

It predicted joint economic cooperation in an array of projects including finance, oil and petrochemical, and other industrial ventures.

Mr. Drovoskov was quoted here as saying this week all sectors of the Soviet economy, from industry and trade to agriculture, were open to joint ventures with Kuwait.

The Kuwait Foreign Trading Contracting and Investment Company, which managed the loan, refuse to disclose the interest. It said terms were "in line with recent commercial transactions entered into by the Soviet foreign trade bank."

Physicists develop cheaper electricity power

WASHINGTON (AP) — Physicists have achieved a breakthrough in superconductivity research that points to dramatically more efficient and cheaper electrical power, the government announced Monday.

The researchers, at the University of Houston and the University of Alabama, have achieved superconductivity — the ability to transport electrical current with no resistance — at a temperature so high that it could be called a breakthrough, said the government's National Science Foundation.

The researchers reached superconductivity at 283 degrees below zero F (175 degrees below zero C). The measurement is almost 100 degrees F (37.8 degrees C) warmer than the mark set less

than two months ago.

When superconductivity is achieved, electricity can travel farther with greater efficiency.

After its discovery in 1911, scientists believed superconductivity only occurred when materials were kept close to absolute zero, or minus 459.7 degrees F (minus 272 degrees C), the temperature at which the normal motion of molecules ceases.

For decades, researchers have experimented with new conducting materials and techniques in attempts to raise the temperature where cheaper and easier-to-use coolants could be employed for practical uses.

Teams headed by Mr. Paul C.W. Chu at Houston and Mr. M.K. Wu at Alabama finally surpassed that threshold, said the

foundation, which co-sponsored the work. Results of the research have been accepted for publication in the journal Physical Review Letters, it added.

The collaborative teams used new alloys and techniques to raise the temperature under normal atmospheric pressure, the announcement said.

Until now, expensive and hard-to-handle liquid helium had to be used to cool the conductors, but the researchers accomplished superconductivity with warmer liquid nitrogen.

Liquid nitrogen, which has a temperature of minus 321 degrees F (minus 196 degrees C) is 10 times cheaper and 20 times more effective as a coolant than liquid helium, the foundation said. The ability to use this mate-

rial should greatly speed development of practical applications for the technology, experts say.

Mr. Chu and other experts said superconductivity could have many practical uses if perfected, including generating and sending electricity from plants far away from users because no energy would be lost in transmission.

Other uses could include making more powerful electromagnets to run levitated trains and power new generations of "atom smashers" for physicists, as well as improved magnetic resonance imaging systems for medicine.

On a smaller scale, they added, the technology could revolutionise digital electronics and lead to faster computers and better communications systems.

Peking orders tighter control over prices

PEKING (AP) — Authorities have ordered tighter price controls nationwide this year in an effort to stabilise inflation, an official oews report said Tuesday.

"Price checks this year will focus on daily necessities and services and the price of capital goods such as machinery and raw materials will be inspected," the State Administration of Commodity Prices said in a circular reported by the Xinhua News Agency.

The circular ordered tighter control of prices and urged local officials to investigate unauthorised price hikes and unreasonable fees that it said have prompted consumer complaints.

The government announced this month that retail prices rose six per cent in 1986, down from an inflation rate of nine per cent in 1985.

Greek government to maintain austerity measures despite strikes

ATHENS (R) — Economy Minister Kostas Simitis, brushing aside a wave of protest strikes crippling Greece, said Tuesday the Socialist government would not give up a two-year wage freeze and called the stoppages unjustified.

More than half a million people, including civil servants, teachers, bank clerks, nurses and taxi drivers went on strike Tuesday, the second day of a 48-hour protest.

"We will continue our restrictive incomes' policy this year despite the social cost," Mr. Simitis told a news conference.

"Strikes are not a pleasant thing and they show that a problem exists but they can't be justified because 1986 has shown an improvement in the situation," he said.

The minister said inflation fell to 16.9 per cent last year from 25 per cent in 1985, while the cur-

rent account deficit dropped to \$1.75 billion from a record \$3.3 billion.

"Wage earners have contributed to this achievement and their sacrifices have not been in vain," he said.

Economy ministry officials say workers' average living standards are set to shrink by six per cent this year after falling about seven per cent in 1986.

Tuesday's strike followed a wave of stoppages since Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu introduced the wage freeze in October 1985 as part of a tough two-year austerity programme designed to cut Greece's runaway inflation and foreign debts.

Industrial action has intensified this year as Greeks feel the pinch of the freeze.

Greece came to a virtual standstill Monday as more than two million people demanding an end to the wage freeze stopped work

for the day, crippling transport, closing down offices and shops and disrupting health services.

A nationwide stoppage was also staged last week and banks and petrol stations will not reopen until Thursday.

Mr. Simitis said he hoped success of the programme would allow the government more freedom in wage negotiations.

"We will continue to have problems in the economy after this year but we hope to be able to negotiate an agreement with workers' will find easier to accept."

Mr. Simitis said the government aimed to reduce inflation to around 10 per cent next year and trim the current account deficit to \$1.25 billion.

Industrialists have welcomed the austerity programme and called for fresh action to deal with the economy's structural weaknesses and encourage investment.

THE Daily Crossword by Norma Steinberg

ACROSS

- John Jacob
- Continental prefix
- Bedouin
- Debbie or Pat
- Spring
- Part of the ear
- City on the Mississippi
- Quasich weapon
- Copy
- Shap tasis
- Candless
- "This Nasty Was"
- Five for Francois
- Grass chore
- Shaving the head
- Included with
- Tam-tam
- of Sandwich
- Patch of grass
- Tree trunk
- Author Jeffe
- "How do I love"
- Some sheep
- Cephalopod
- Unyielding
- Manhandled
- Marine
- Be concerned
- Slouch Indian
- Also, Cal.
- Collation
- Slender
- Ala. city
- Little Canon part
- Chicago landmark
- Wild — chase
- Fusses
- Fishes
- Kinds

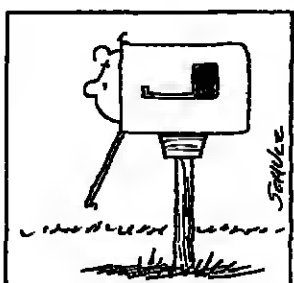
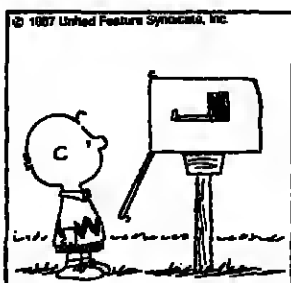
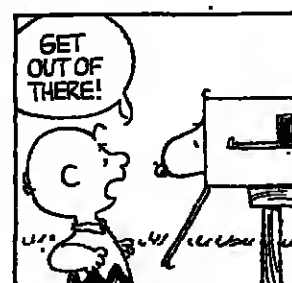
DOWN

- Rhyme scheme
- Shower necessity
- Kind of bag
- Yoko
- Lessing
- Make amends
- Dance like the twist
- Cleaning cloth
- Job opportunities
- N.M. city
- Core
- Talented
- Kind
- Kneaded
- Nav. off.
- St. Paul's sister
- Pine features
- Brewing item
- City on the Missouri
- Bowled over
- Rascal sign
- Painter Duty
- Tennessee — Ford
- Dresses
- "Shane" star
- That can be endured
- Skirt-like garments
- Gym pad
- Bamako's land
- Shrouds
- Rue — Paix
- Enthusiastic
- Unit of weight
- Nudge
- Norse god
- " — of Eden"
- Iowa city
- Electricified
- particle
- Moo — gal
- pen

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

HELIX BIRIE THUD
WIEVA STRAM DEJAR
PLIVETIANGREMERAL
FLY LAIRIS AMBINE
SLAP MOVE
WHITNEY RARA SPA
ADONE SARAB PAIS
FOURLEAF CLOVERS
EIGEDITH ELIUS
LOVE BLIND BALLAD
PUTT FALL
SWARM AURA SHA
THREERINGS CIRROS
RELY ENJOY OATH
TWOS PLAYE TRIDE

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

KYKIN

DIELY

SITMIF

TEPICK

WHAT PART OF A FISH IS LIKE THE END OF A MOVIE?

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: THE "O O O O"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ORBIT WIPED LAWYER CLOVER

Answer: What the amazed spectators at the big game were — "BOWLED" OVER

Top Nicaraguan rebel chief resigns as crisis deepens

MIAMI (R) — The resignation of a top Nicaraguan rebel leader has underscored a deepening crisis within the U.S.-backed rebels, raising new doubts about the prospects for new military aid, U.S. and rebel officials said.

Adolfo Calero, 55, a conservative member of the triumvirate that rules the rebel umbrella group United Nicaraguan Opposition (UNO), announced his departure Monday, apparently under pressure from rival leaders and the Reagan administration.

But Mr. Calero told reporters at a Miami news conference that he would remain as head of the CIA-trained Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), UNO's largest rebel army and the stronghold of right-wing power in the movement.

U.S. officials had hoped that Mr. Calero's departure would help heal the rift in the ranks of rebel leadership at a time when the Reagan administration is preparing to ask Congress for \$105 million in new military aid. But rebel officials and congressional leaders said the resignation has underscored the deep disarray of the rebel leadership and could intensify the internal power struggle between moderate and right-wing factions.

Those factors, they said, could jeopardize UNO's future funding and doom the struggling insurgency to failure in its fight against Nicaragua's Sandinista government.

"It's one of the problems the administration is facing in renew-

ing their military support for the contras," House majority leader Thomas Foley, a Washington Democrat, told reporters.

In announcing his resignation, Mr. Calero endorsed as his replacement Pedro Joaquín Chamorro Jr., son of a slain Nicaraguan newspaper editor.

Chamorro, who lives in exile in Costa Rica, told Reuters in a telephone interview Tuesday: "I would accept the post if I was approved (by UNO's governing body). But it would also be necessary to see if my nomination has the support of FDN troops, who are fighting the war."

The assassination of Mr. Chamorro's father in 1978 led to the insurrection that brought down former Nicaraguan Dictator Anastasio Somoza and ushered in the ruling Sandinistas.

Meanwhile a Central American ceasefire proposal and a move to involve Nicaragua more deeply in peace efforts, outlined at a regional summit here, indicated that America's allies in the area are softening their stand on Nicaragua, summit sources said Monday.

The ceasefire plan was contained in a nine-point draft report at the end of the one-day summit of four Central American presidents Sunday.

Nicaragua was not invited to the summit, but the leaders of

Guatemala, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Honduras — all U.S. allies — agreed at the meeting to invite Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega to talks within 90 days in Esquipulas, Guatemala.

One delegation leader at the summit said Nicaragua's government clearly is considering cooperating with four neighbours in achieving peace.

He noted that Nicaragua, which initially condemned Monday's meeting as a gathering of "neo-colonialists of the United States," said through its Vice-President Tuesday it would study the draft report.

Delegation members said some of the pressure for the overture to Nicaragua came from Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo, who refused to sign a document singling out Nicaragua as the major source of regional instability.

In a separate development a veteran U.S. diplomat said Monday he was forced to resign from the State Department because of unjustified allegations by the chief of the Latin American Affairs Bureau.

Francis J. McNeil, 54, a former ambassador to Costa Rica said Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams "suggested I was untrustworthy and, in effect, disloyal."

Interviewed separately by the NBC-TV Network and the Associated Press, Mr. McNeil said Mr. Abrams accused him of undercutting the administration's foreign policy by suggesting that the U.S.-backed Nicaraguan contra guerrillas were not doing well.

Hanoi announces major cabinet changes

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Vietnam on Tuesday announced sweeping changes in its key government body, firing 13 ministers and making 18 new appointments.

The official Voice of Vietnam said the almost total revamp of the council of ministers was detailed in a communique issued Monday in Hanoi.

The changes came about two months after Vietnam's top Communist Party leaders resigned and the all-powerful politburo was revamped.

The top party leaders — Party General Secretary Truong Chinh, Prime Minister Pham Van Dong and key politburo member Le Duc Tho — stepped down during the party's sixth congress as part of an apparent attempt to infuse new blood into an aging, ineffective leadership.

Initial indications were that the ministerial changes announced Tuesday were part of the same transition. But the 80-year-old Dong, who heads the council of ministers, was not affected by the changes, although he has expressed a desire to quit because of age and failing health.

The major changes included the elevation of Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach to become one of the council's vice chairmen, and the replacement of veteran revolutionary Pham Hung with Mai Chi Tho, a former mayor of Ho Chi Minh City, as the powerful interior minister.

Both Mr. Thach and Mr. Tho, along with several others in the new lineup, are regarded as reform-minded and more flexible than the older hardliners who have spent half a century fighting wars and leading revolutions.

Van Thieu, the architect of the final Communist victory over South Vietnam in 1975, was relieved of his post as defence minister and replaced by Le Duc Anh, the man credited for Vietnam's invasion of Kampuchea in late 1978.

Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh, one of the most prominent of the Viet Cong leaders during the Vietnam war, was dismissed as minister of education.

U.N. lists hundreds of arbitrary executions

GENEVA (R) — The United Nations has reported hundreds of arbitrary executions around the world last year, many of them in Brazil, Iran, Liberia and Sri Lanka.

The report submitted by a U.N. special rapporteur, Kenya's S. Amos Wako, to the 43-nation U.N. Human Rights Commission, covered killings in civil wars, deaths in custody and through the illegal use of force by law enforcement agents.

Mr. Wako blamed "a fundamental absence of understanding and respect for the right to life among those responsible for the direction of military operations in such conflicts."

He said he had written to the Iranian government about several hundred persons reported to have been executed, many secretly, in various parts of the country during the second half of 1985 and early 1986.

Tehran had not yet commented on the alleged executions, often said to have been carried out by prison guards, he said.

Some were said to have been executed without trial, others at demonstrations or as a result of torture by security forces.

The special rapporteur has written to Liberia about the deaths of some 600 persons by government forces without legal proceedings after an attempted coup last year.

"The victims were mostly innocent civilians, but included some military," the report said. "It was alleged that the killings had in some cases been accompanied by acts of savage brutality, including castration, mutilation and dismemberment."

In Sri Lanka, where civil war has raged for four years between government forces and Tamil separatists, the toll was high, Mr. Wako said.

A government official had informed the special rapporteur that 221 members of the security forces and 638 civilians were killed in the first 11 months of 1986.

On Brazil, Mr. Wako referred to a governmental report that 125 rural workers were killed between January and mid-June 1986 in disputes over land ownership, many by hired hands. The government has yet to reply to his letter of inquiry, he added.

Filipino rebels abduct villagers, kill leader

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — A force of about 120 rebels killed the top official of a remote community and then took the entire village hostage, the military said Tuesday.

The Philippine Constabulary said five other people were killed in separate attacks Monday by the Communist-dominated New People's Army (NPA) on Luzon and Panay islands.

The latest deaths brought to at least 50 the number of people killed in rebel attacks since a 60-day cease-fire with the government expired on Feb. 8.

In a report to his superiors in Manila, the provincial constabulary commander in Isabela said he sent troops backed by helicopters to the village of Babog, which was occupied Monday by some 120 rebels.

The report said the rebels killed the top village official and took the residents hostage. It did not give the population of the village or other details.

Due to poor communications with the area, it was unclear whether the rebels remained in

the village, about 320 kilometres north east of Manila, on Tuesday. Meanwhile, the Philippine Constabulary Information Office said another village official, two constabulary troopers and two policemen were killed Monday by rebels in the provinces of Zambales, Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur and Iloilo.

The rebels took the guns of the slain soldiers and policemen.

Meanwhile President Corason Aquino's office announced Tuesday that Philippine ministries will be officially known as departments and ministers will be called secretaries.

A statement said the president signed an administrative order Monday changing the designations.

The statement said the order was in keeping with the new constitution, formally implemented last week.

In the order, Mrs. Aquino said deputy ministers henceforth would be referred to as undersecretaries and assistant ministers would be designated assistant secretaries.

Argentine courts rush to beat deadline on new rights trials

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentine courts are working feverishly to investigate military officers accused of human rights violations as a deadline for most new rights trials loomed less than a week away, court sources said.

The surges said Monday the federal appeals court was in almost permanent hearings as it weighed evidence against at least 15 navy officers accused of human rights abuses during Argentina's former military government.

Other courts around the country heard testimony in recent days from military officers accused of dozens of rights abuses.

"This is a critical week. We trust the courts, and we expect them to call to trial those who should be called," said Simon

Lazara, president of the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights.

The alleged crimes, including murder and torture, date from Argentina's harsh, eight-year military regime.

A state investigation after the country returned to civilian government in 1983 reported that more than 9,000 people disappeared at the hands of security forces during the military rule.

Ten military men have been convicted so far for rights abuses, including two former presidents.

But all legal action against military officers and civilians accused of rights abuses will be "extinguished," the new law says, if they have not been called to court by Sunday.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Arab states to supervise TV cartoons

KUWAIT (R) — Gulf Arab states have set up a joint committee to supervise the screening of children's television cartoons, the Kuwait News Agency KUNA reported. It said television directors of the seven-nation Arab Gulf joint production programme corporation have ended two-day talks with a recommendation to produce a special feature series for children aged six to ten years. It also named a three-man committee of officials from Kuwait, Qatar and Saudi Arabia to select suitable children's cartoons to be dubbed in Arabic for regional screening. Television officials from Bahrain, Iraq, Oman and the United Arab Emirates also attended the meeting.

TV reschedules Palme film

STOCKHOLM (R) — Swedish television has said it had postponed the showing of a controversial Soviet film on Prime Minister Olof Palme's assassination. The documentary "who murdered Olof Palme?" had been scheduled for screening on Feb. 27, the eve of the first anniversary of the death of Mr. Palme who was shot while walking home with his wife from a cinema. A Swedish TV spokesman said the film would be shown shortly before midnight on March 6 "so as to give a better balance of programming on the anniversary." Mr. Palme's brother Claes last week appealed to Swedish TV not to show the film on the eve of the anniversary. The American embassy also protested on the grounds that the film suggested involvement by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency in Palme's murder.

Charles, Diana in Switzerland

ZURICH, Switzerland (AP) — Britain's Prince Charles and Princess Diana have arrived en route to a winter vacation in the Swiss Alps. A four-engine plane piloted by Prince Charles brought the royal couple into Zurich International Airport from Toulouse, France, where they attended the unveiling of the latest jetliner by Airbus Industrie, the European aviation consortium, on Saturday. They switched to a car, driven by Charles, for the trip to the town of Klosters, some 150 kilometres south east of Zurich in Grisons Canton. Charles and Diana are expected to join Prince Andrew and his wife Sarah Ferguson, who have already been vacationing in Grisons for several days. Buckingham Palace in London refused to say how long the couples will stay in Switzerland.

'Shanghai is slowly sinking'

PEKING (R) — Shanghai, China's largest city, is gradually sinking, an official Chinese newspaper reported. The Shanghai Evening News said the seaport slipped 4.2 millimetres (0.16 inch), mainly because of exploitation of underground water. If the city continued to sink at that rate it would be below sea level by the 26th century, the paper said.

Chinese leader sees deep Communist Party split

PEKING (R) — The Chinese Communist Party is hit by weakness and confusion and more divided than it has ever been in the past eight years, a top party leader said Tuesday.

The People's Daily quoted veteran party leader Wang Zhen as saying that in the past few years there had been "weakness and confusion in the ideological field from the central leadership to many localities."

Mr. Wang's remarks were some of the strongest in a six-week campaign against "bourgeois liberalism," a term used to describe Western political ideas blamed for causing student protests in December.

The campaign led to the dismissals last month of party chief Hu Yaobang and the party propaganda chief.

A Western diplomat said Mr. Wang's comments were in line with criticisms made by other leaders, apparently aimed at Mr. Hu, of laxity and errors.

"We are getting conflicting signals from the media. The differences of opinion within the leadership have not been ironed out. It has not been worked out who will be the winners and losers — conservatives or reformers or a mixture of both," the diplomat said.

Mr. Wang, a conservative, told the inauguration ceremony of a new central party school that

the party had been united eight years ago in opposing the "gang of four" radicals who virtually ran China during the chaotic Cultural Revolution between 1966 and 1976.

The policies of Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping have been those of the whole party since 1979. "But since comrade Deng Xiaoping consolidated adherence to the four basic principles (including socialism and leadership of the party), a small number of comrades in the theoretical field went their own way and away from the party," Mr. Wang said.

The People's Daily quoted President Li Xiannian as saying at a welcoming banquet for Gabon President Omar Bongo that China would continue to reform its economic and political system.

"We will not change what has been proved efficient. Our policies since 1978 are entirely correct, and enjoy popular support," Mr. Li said at Monday night's banquet.

The newspaper also carried on its front page a warning from Vice-Premier Li Peng, tipped to be China's next premier, that only students with both ability and political integrity could be regarded as qualified for Socialist construction.

He said careful and thorough investigations into the attitude of college students were necessary.

Rotation of Italian premiers threatens stability

ROME (AP) — Three and a half years of political stability under premier Bettino Craxi is being tested by wrangling over a proposed midterm rotation of premiers. A stalemate could lead to early general elections.

Mr. Craxi, the nation's first Socialist premier, may give some indication of the future of Italy's 45th postwar government when he opens a key parliamentary debate Wednesday on his government's policies and performance.

Mr. Craxi, whose tenure since August 1983 makes him Italy's longest-serving premier since the end of World II, has been credited with bringing political and economic stability to a country accustomed to revolving-door governments and sickly economies.

Politicians will be looking for signs of whether Mr. Craxi is willing to honour an unwritten agreement to step down as premier next month and hand over power to a Christian Democrat.

The so-called "staffetta," or baton-passing, was reportedly part of the deal that allowed the resurrection of Craxi's five-party coalition on Aug. 1, five weeks after it collapsed as a result of feuding between Socialists and Christian Democrats.

According to the understanding, Mr. Craxi would step down sometime in March to devote himself to preparing the Socialists for the next parliamentary elections in 1988. A Christian Democrat, presumably Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, a former five-term premier, would lead the government for the remainder of the term.

But hopes for an orderly transfer of power have faded in recent weeks as the Socialists and Christian Democrats resumed their bitter squabbling.

Mr. Craxi has refused to guarantee that he will relinquish power. He has refused to say why. In return, Christian Democrats have attacked his performance and restated their claim to the premier's office at Palazzo Chigi.

Socialist Labour Minister Gianni De Michelis announced he would leave the cabinet rather than stay in a government run by "lazy, slothful and resistant" Christian Democrats.

Claudio Martelli, Mr. Craxi's top aide, blamed the Christian Democrats for the stalemate.

"The rotation will happen if there is a solid majority, not torn, not conflict-ridden," he said.

The Christian Democrats, Italy's largest party, have about three times as many parliamentary seats as the Socialists. The other smaller parties in the coalition are the Republicans, Liberals and Social Democrats.

Political tensions also are running high over Mr. Craxi's recent proposal for direct presidential elections to replace the current system of parliamentary vote.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR ABARIF
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠K72 ♣K33 ♥732 ♦9853

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 ♣ 2 ♣ 3 ♣ 4 ♣

Pass 3 ♣ Pass

What action do you take?

A.—At this vulnerability, partner must have a pretty good hand for this bidding—after all, he has contracted for nine tricks all on his own. You have some useful values, and your king of spades should solidify partner's suit. However, your king of hearts is worthless unless you declare the hand, so we would opt for three no trump.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♠93 ♣AK1082 ♦AKJ82

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♣ 1 ♣ 2 ♣ 2 ♣

Pass 4 ♣ Pass

What action do you take?

A.—For his jump to game in hearts, partner should have a long suit and little outside strength. If that is so, your hand is eminently suitable for him. Pass. There is no reason to suppose that you can make 11 tricks at a minor-suit contract.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠KJ982 ♣AQ83 ♥872 ♦5

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 ♣ 1 ♣ 2 ♣ 2 ♣

Pass 3 ♣ Pass

What do you bid now?

A.—You are a whisker short of a raise to game. (Switch your minor-suit holdings around and we might have ventured four hearts.) However, you should take very positive action, and an invitational raise to three hearts fits the bill.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you

hold:

♠A1072 ♣854 ♥92 ♦A76

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass

4 ♣ Pass

What action do you take?

A.—Partner has shown as strong a hand as possible without making a demand bid. Facing such strength, two aces and a five-card suit are not to be sneezed at. We feel you are worth one more toward slam, and a cue-bid of five clubs is the obvious step.

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠85 ♣A9 ♦AKQ873 ♠K104

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♣ 1 ♣ 1 NT Pass

What action do you take?

A.—Throw away your point-count book! You have a hand that rates to produce six or more tricks. If partner has as little as a spade stopper and one ace (not too much to expect for his no trump bid), you can virtually count nine tricks. Bid three no trump.

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♠K762 ♣A ♠AJ93 ♠K102

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♣ Pass 2 NT Pass

What do you bid now?

A.—With your wealth of controls, slam is a distinct possibility if an adequate trump suit can be found. Since you have an unbalanced hand, there is no reason not to show it by bidding naturally, so we would proceed with three diamonds. If partner shows a fit for either of our suits, we would look for greater things.

JORDAN WELFARE LOTTERY

Ordinary issue No 337

Drawing of: Feb. 17, 1987

Winning Tickets

Holder of ticket No. 05410

Wins JD 20,000

Holder of ticket No. 05966

Wins JD 5,000

Holder of ticket No. 33437

Wins JD 2,500

Holder of ticket No. 14012

Wins JD 2,000

Holder of ticket No. 37588

Wins JD 1,000

Holder of ticket No. 43892

Wins JD 1,000

Holder of ticket No. 44768

Wins JD 800

Holder of ticket No. 51998

Wins JD 600

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 800 each wins JD 80

05411 05420 05510 06410 15410

05419 05400 05310 04410 55410

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 400 each wins JD 40

05967 05976 05066 06966 15966

05965 05956 05866 04966 55966

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 200 each wins JD 20

33438 33447 33537 34437 43437

33436 33427 33337 32437 23437

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 100 each wins JD 10

14013 14022 14112 15012 24012

14011 14002 14912 13012 04012

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 80 each wins JD 8

37589 37598 37688 38588 47588

37587 37578 37488 36588 27588

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 60 each wins JD 6

43893 43802 43992 44892 53892

43891 43882 43792 42892 33892

Ten consolation prizes totalling JD 40 each wins JD 4

44769 44778 44868 45768 54768

44767 44758